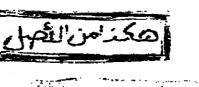
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THE AWARD-WINNING INDEPENDENT: EDITOR OF THE YEAR, CORRESPONDENT OF THE YEAR

THEINDEPENDENT

ANET GELDOF DON'T STAND BY YOUR MAN, WE THINK THE WORLD OF SIR BOB IN THE FRIDAY REVIEW



Celebrations over

exit of 'bogeyman'

tal reform to its jobs market;

he responded by trying to

bully the ECB into an interest

rate cut. The euro could not

in borrowing costs in Euro-

land is now more likely to go

abead. It will allow the EU,

aspiring to be an economic

power to rival the US to shoul-

der a share of the respon-

sibility for keeping the world

Blairite vision of economic

reform as the engine of pros-

perity-is oow likely to make

more beadway. While Ger-

hard Schröder, the German

Chancellor, is no Tony Blair,

footaine view that a boost to

demand is all Europe oeeds.

Reform, said last night: "This

is wonderful news. It will shift

the intellectual climate io

Europe back towards the

agenda of economic reform."

ment from the Treasury or

Downing Street, oor the ECB

their celebrations private.

row. The bankers argued that or the Bundesbank. They kept

There was oo official com-

CHINA 35p

INDIA 48D

ISRAEL 15p

JAPAN 16D

MALAYSIA 20p

MAURITIUS 40 p

Nz / Oz 13p

RUSSIA 30p

SINGAPORE 18p

THAILAND 40p

usa 7p

SOUTH AFRICA 31 D

номе коме 12р

Charles Grant, director of

More fundamentally, the

economy out of recession.

The stimulus of a reduction

have had a worse start.

BOTTLES OF champagne

were opened in Downing

the departure of "Red Oskar".

It was not the only cele-

bration. The confrontational

German Finance Minister

was oot popular io other

European capitals. Officials at

the European Central Bank

had hated the crass way he

tried to pressure them into

cutting interest rates. And

the financial markets were

simply jubilant, seeding the

euro soaring from its embar-

rassing record lows within

minutes of the news of his

His biggest fans were, per-

haps, Britain's Eurosceptics.

Mr Lafootaine was their

favourite bogeyman, his push

for tax harmonisation within

Europe giving them the

chance to argue that Brussels

wanted to pile more taxes oo

to the UK. In truth, Red Oskar

was more isolated within

Europe than he seemed, and

ha is unlikely to garner

enough support to become the

next President of the Euro-

Despite the apparently

warm relations between him

and Dominique Strauss-

Kahn, the French Finance

little genuine sympathy for

Mr Lafootaine's oid-style

Certainly, these views were

Keynesian economic views.

oot shared by the European

Central Bank, with which he

picked a damaging public

Germany needed fundamen-

Minister, the Frenchman has

surprise resignation.

Street last night to celebrate

Boost for the euro as Lafontaine exits in German power struggle

OSKAR LAFONTAINE, the Ger- BY IMRE KARACS man Finance Minister dubbed "Europe's most dangerous man" in the British tabloid press, resigned yesterday after apparently losing a power struggle against Chancellor Gerhard Schröder.

The departure of "Red Oskar", as he was known to survived an assassination atfriend and foe alike, is certain to herald an abrupt policy shift ited with more staying power. in Germany, with repercussions for the balance of power in Europe. Mr Lafootaine represented old-fashioned socialist values, whereas Mr Schröder is flattered by comparisons to Tony Blair. For "New Labour", ad "New Centre" - the illand "New Centre" - the illim to victory in last Septem-

him to victor, ber's elections. Germany's recent tempestuous relations with Europe are likely to improve dramatically. Berlin holds the EU presidency and Mr Lafontaine had antagonised the British government by repeatedly calling for "tax-harmonisation" in Eu-

page 14 CAP reforms

frieading article, Review, page 3

rope. Mr Lafontaine's heavy taxation policies have shaken confidence in the euro and were in part responsible for yester forms which appeared to day's failure to radically reform threaten the creation of new the Common Agriculture Policy.
Mr Lafontaine alienated felplans to create a new world financial order based on fixed ex-Achange rates. And he irritated other EU countries by striding across the Continent, issuing

commands to the European Central Bank and fellow finance ministers. Mr Lafootaine, who has been rumoured to be coveting Priob of President of the Euwan Commission, also quit as Chairman of the German Sosence, Mr Schröder is likely to have a freer hand in implementing economic policies op-

eading figure of the left.

in Berlin

Although tensions had been rising between the German Chancellor and his powerful rivai, last night's announcement was completely unexpected. Mr Lafontaine, who tempt in 1990, had been cred-According to a terse statement issued through a spokesman, Mr Schröder was "surprised" by Mr Lafontaine's action, regretted it and thanked him for all his good work.

That is not quite the version that leaked to the press after an extraordinarily bitter cabinet meeting on Wednesday night. According to these accounts, the Chancellor castigated several ministers for pushing policies that did not enjoy the support of the voters. He was particularly scathing about that way the German business community was affronted by Mr Lafontaine's tax reforms.

According to ministers attending that meeting, the Chancellor warned his leftist colleagues against putting too great a burden on business. Last week he received an open letter from managers of 22 of .Germany's biggest concerns, complaining of Mr Lafontaine's tax reforms. Insurance companies, in particular, threatened to move their operations out of Germany and to stop buying German government bonds.

At Wednesday night's stormy cabinet session, Mr Schröder read a litany of economic policies which had gone wrong. He lambasted the tax reforms which appeared to jobs, and took a side-swipe at the Greens' efforts to bump up low Socialists in Paris with his fuel prices and tighten the law on car emissions.

"There will come a point where I will no longer take responsibility for such a policy," Mr Schröder is reported to have told his colleagues.

He was scathing about Mr Lafootaine's plans to inflict punitive taxes on the nuclear industry, just as the government was trying to negotiate a deal to phase out nuclear power. Mr Lafontaine had proposed to rial Democratic Party. In his ab- tax the utilities' financial reserves set aside for the closure of nuclear plants. Mr Schröder is reported to have described



Oskar Lafontaine, the German Finance Minister, whose departure heralds a policy shift by Bonn

spokesman, Uwe-Karsten Heye, yesterday confirmed that the Chancellor had ordered all ministers to check all new policies "for any negative effects on the economy". "All problems have to be viewed realistically and interests weighed so that the coelition keeps its majority sup-The government's chief port," he added.

culminating in an unexpected defeat for the Social Democrats and Greens at regional elec-

tions in Hesse. He is acutely aware of the sentiment on the street, which held his government in contempt but awarded him good

stunned by the "business revolt" of recent weeks. Through-Schröder managed to get

ahead by cutting deals, especially with business. But the government has an-

the next wave of television ne-

Mr Schröder has been rat- marks for style. As the most tagonised the business classes. tled by a series of setbacks, business-friendly Social De- The "alliance for jobs" between mocrat Chancellor ever, he was employers, employees and the government was getting nowhere, unemployment was out his political career, Mr rising, and the Germany economy was spinning out of control.
As in September last year,

the country was ready for change.

the Premier League through Leaver and Sir John resigned.

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Premiership chiefs quit in £50m row

THE CHIEF executive and the BY GLENN MOORE hairman of football's Premier eague were forced to resign ast night in row over consulancy contracts potentially worth an estimated £50m to. SkyB.

Peter Leaver, the chief exscutive, and Sir John Quinton, vere shown the door by the 20 sign of their anger over con-rank-and-file membership. racts with Sam Chisholm and

Football Correspondent

In what has become a winter cull of football administra- aging as Mr Leaver, a skilled tors, Mr Leaver and Sir John wo former executives of the follow Graham Kelly and Premier League's defence at the television broadcaster Keith Wiseman, their Football against the Office of Fair Trad-Association equivalents, and Jim Farry, former chief executive of the Scottish FA, in rights. If the case, currently in resigning in the face of overremiership club chairmen as whelming opposition from their is lost it could lead to an accel-

As a consequence, the five David Chance, who were en-isted to help with the next administration—as well as that It was an attempt to manage

administration continues to hirch from crisis to crisis.

The timing of this development could be especially damadvocate, had been steering the ing's investigation into the collective bargaining of television the Restrictive Practices Court. eration of football's wealth gap and the break-up of the Pre-

ound of television negotiations. of the England football coach - the relationship between tele-The row underlines the impact are currently in the hands of vision and football which proin football of the millions at caretakers. The sport may be voked yesterday's denouement enjoying a financial boom but its though - as with Messrs Kelly



and Wiseman - Mr Leaver and Sir John have been punished as much for their methods as their judgement. Chance were enlisted to guide

gotiations. As both are former BSkyB executives this appeared to be something of a coup, but it was then revealed that their contracts were potentially worth millions to them. Each is reportedly due to receive a £1.8m consultancy fee plus incentive payments that could total more than £50m. There was also disquiet over

Mr Chisholm's links with Tottenham Hotspur - a club Mr Leaver has supported for 40 years and upon whose board he once served.

It is thought there was an un-Mr Chisholm and Mr successful attempt to renegotiate the contracts before Mr

personalities, particularly between Mr Leaver and the more forthright club chairmen. Mr Leaver never quite managed to hide the superior manner acquired in a long career at the Bar, and that inevitably grated with the club chairmen, a body of largely self-made men with strong opinions.

But it was not just this deal

that culminated in yesterday's

rift; there was also a clash of

Mr Leaver is temporarily replaced by Mike Foster, the Premier League's secretary. Dave Richards, the chairman of Sheffield Wednesday, takes over as acting chairman.

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

INSIDE THIS SECTION

'aratrooper cleared Liter Lee Clegg was a Suitted of the murder ri a Belfast teenager tome P2"

Stadjum sold in FA-led consortium ook control of Wembley

Officials expelled Five British officials expelled from the Congo amid spy claims Foreign P16

Nibet demonstrations Two monks detained in Lhasa over protests Foreign P17

Prudential buys M&G Britain's biggest life insurer is to buy M&G in a £1.9bn agreed deal **Business P20**

Stone moves to Villa Steve Stone has signed for Aston Villa for £5.5m Sport P32

INSIDE THE REVIEW

Donald Macintyre Who will Tony Blair choose as our new man in Brussels?

Philip Hensher The day I was named in the House Comment P4

Mark Steel There is great joy in doing radio in the blue rinse resort of Sandwich Features P8

Star light, star bright At last, a date of birth for the universe Science P9

TODAY'S TELEVISION



200 years, five months and three minutes. How to make the perfect cup of tea

IN THE MAGAZINE

BRIAN VINER: STARS IN HIS EYES **EANNA PAVORD** ON THE PRIMROSE **EPLUS** ARTS. **BOOKS, TRAVEL**

SHER, JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH. DEBORAH ORR, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

Mowlam pins peace hopes on Clinton

PRESIDENT BILL Clinton could hold the key to unlocking the impasse in the Northern Ireland peace talks after a failure to reach a hreakthrough last night in Downing Street.

Mo Mowlam, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, is pinning her hopes on the US administration to help produce a breakthrough in Washington next week when the main party leaders visit the United States for St Patrick's Day celebrations

President Clinton is expected to exert pressure on the Sinn Fein leadership for the IRA to make a start on decommissioning its weapons. This will allow David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, to go ahead with the establishment of the new Ulster power-sharing executive by the end-of-March

Mr Clinton will also urge the Ulster Unionists to "go the extra mile" for peace, as Tony Blair said this week

Chief Political Correspondent

President Clinton has made clear he will do everything he can to help. But I think it's important to find out from the parties as well what he can do from their perspective, because it is them he will be wanting to help.

"I'm sure that just providing an environment for people to meet and talk in a relaxed fashion will help build up some of the confidence we need to move forward in the weeks ahead."

Mr Trimble continued to talk up the prospects of a lastminute settlement after he emerged from Downing Street following yesterday's meeting

But he was put under intense pressure from his Ulster Unionist colleagues not to give way over their demand that the IRA should begin decommissioning its arms before Gerry Adams and Martin McGuin-

in the new Assembly power sharing executive.

One of Mr Trimble's senior colleagues said: "There was no progress. We are dead-

Mr Trimble, First Minister

designate in the new Northern Ireland Assembly, continued to talk up the chances of finding a way through the stumbling block of decommissioning. "I'm quite sure it can be re-solved," he said. "It is within the capability of the paramilitary groups to do it. It's not a matter that they cannot do, it is a matter that they won't do. don't think society can tolerate

Ms Mowlam said she was not contemplating failing to resolve the arms issue by the new deadline for the setting up of the Assembly, in three weeks' time. "I have found in the past it is deeply unhelpful to plan for failure. I'm not planning for failure, I'm planning to call a meeting of the Assembly in the week of the 29th." First couple's puzzle, page 13

that 'won't'," he said.



Clegg acquitted of killing teenager

THE CONTROVERSIAL case of BY DAVID MCKITTRICK the paratrooper Lee Clegg yesterday took another twist when, in a re-trial, a Belfast judge acquitted him of the murder of the Belfast teenager Karen Reilly The outcome was denounced by republicans and nationalists.

have broken down when the verdict was delivered, while Karen Reilly's father, Sean, was clearly upset.

The paratrooper was origithe 18-year-old. Appeals were rejected by the Court of Appeal

quashed the guilty verdict and

ordered a re-trial of the case. The nine-year saga served as The Clegg family was said to a stark illustration of differing perceptions of army actions in case was supported by campaigns by senior soldiers and nally convicted of the murder of sections of the British media.

BRITAIN TODAY

tence, and later by the fact that he was accepted back into Lords, but last year the courts the Army and subsequently Although Mr Justice Kerr ac-

quitted Clegg on the charge of truth in evidence, describing said he sympathised with the murder, he upheld the earlier trial's guilty verdict of atmiddle England and national-tempting to wound with intent ist Ireland. The paratrooper's the car's 17-year-old driver. Martin Peake, who was also killed in the incident. Mr Justice Kerr said he could not be In Belfast, nationalist opinion was angered first by his which entered the rear of the

LIGHTING UP

HIGH TIDES

6.21pm to 6.05pm to 6.05pm to 6.13pm to 5.59pm to 6.07pm to 6.03pm to

6.45am 6.28am 6.30am 6.39am 6.20am 6.30am 5.28am

part of his story as "a farrago families of those killed, adding: of deceit and untruth". legal adviser, Simon McKay, done. It's so difficult to know said: "Neither Lee nor his fam- what are the rights and wrongs verdict was until it was ex-

lation to this shot." In his judge-

ment he repeatedly said he did

ily really understood what the in a case like this." plained in the ante-room after MP for West Belfast, said the

YESTERDAY

EXTREMES

farmest: Jersey 14C (57F)

For 24hrs to 6pm Thursday

Coldest (day): Drumabin 4C (49F) Westest: Stornoway 22,0 mm Seamlest: Skegness 7,1 hrs

the court finished. All of them two teenagers had been

car, adding: "I think that it is broke down in tears. It was · very likely that he did but I can - completely overwhelming." He not be sure of it. He is therefore said the soldier intended to apentitled to be acquitted in re- peal against the outstanding

not believe Clegg had told the ty spokesman, Ken Maginnis "I think justice has been done Outside the court, Clegg's and is now being seen to be

Joe Hendron, former SDLP

executed by the clite of the British Army, the Parachute

verdict as an insult to the family of Karen Keilly and a threat to the peace process. A spokesman said: "We... are infuriated by today's decision. It couldn't have come at a worse time, a time when people are working very hard to build and consolidate the peace process.

Even the judge said he be-

lieved Clegg had lied in his ev-



THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY 1032 1016

Low Q and 5 will remain stationary. Low M will continue to move north-east THE WORLD YESTERDAY

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Ministry sponsors face Neill inquiry

SPONSORSHIP of government BY FRAN ABRAMS departments by big corpora-Lord Neill's Committee on Britain's European presidency Standards in Public Lite. announced yesterday.

Companies which spent millions last year sponsoring official events and campaigns might see their backing declared in future as political donations are at present.

Launching a wide-ranging inquiry, Lord Neill questioned whether there was any real difference between sponsoring a political party and sponsoring a government department. "A layman might ask what the difference is between two forms of sponsorship," he said. The committee will look at whether the level of sponsorship should be limited, and whether the

amounts should be disclosed. The issue was raised by Lord Norton, a professor from the University of Hull who became a Conservative peer last year. His questions in the House of Lords

Westminster Correspondent

last year received more than film from firms such as Group Four Eurostar and Rover

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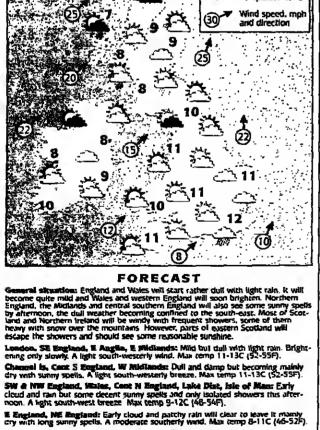
The Property of the Party of th

The same of the same of the same

Baroness Symons, the Foreign Office minister, revealed that last year's G8 Summit in Birmingham received £500,000 in sponsorship. Among other sponsors were the Goldman

Sachs merchant bank and Sony. The Foreign Office added that it had retained the services of a specialist firm, Integrated Communication Projects Ltd, to seek the sponsorship. Approaches were made to more than 400 companies.

Numerous other government publicity projects re-ceived sponsorship. Among them were two Department of Trade and Industry projects a safety campaign on burns and scalds sponsored by Morphy Richards and information of winter fuel payments sport revealed that summits during sored by Gala Bingo Halls.



OUTLOOK Some rain may linger in the south-east early on Saturday and showers will con-tinue in the far north and weat but most of the UK will be mild with sunny spells. Overnight mist and fog patches will lift to leave Sunday mild and bright, although rain will reach Northern Ireland later.

NE & SE Scooland, Edinburgh, Aberdeent Breezy with some showers in the north, The south will be drier with some deceilt sunny spells once early cloud has gone. A fresh south-westerly wind. Max temp 7-10C (45-50F)

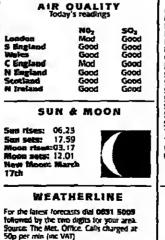
NW & SW Scotland, Glasgom, N & W leles: A few sunny spells but cloud will gather to bring the risk of a few showers by the afternoon. A fresh south-westerl wind. Max temp 6-9C (43-48F).

N Ireland: Sunstine, especially in the south and east. Showers spreading to the north and west. A light to moderate south-westerly wind. Max temp 8-10C (46-50F).

London: A12 Green Man Roundabout,
Leytonstone, Major roadworks on new
M11 Fink road, Until 31st December.
Bristot: M5 J18-19. Major Roadworks on
Avonmouth Bridge. Until 23rd June 2001.
Warwicksthirs: M42 Between J10 Tarrworth
services and J8 Sulton Coldified, Roadworks
and contration. Until 23rd April.
South Yorksthirs: M1 Between J34 Tinsley
Vaduct (A6109) J. J34 Tinsley Viaduct
(A6178). Shaffield. Carriageway is reduced
to two lares southbound. Until 21st
November 2000.

Cheltenham. Closed due to roadworks tribound. Diversions in place Urtal 1st June. Co. Antrias: A1 Kingsway, Dunmurray. Roadworks, various Jano restrictions. Until 1st August. Derbyshirts: A6 Between Derby Southern Bypass (A50) and Shardlow Road round-about. East of Alvaston. Contraflow for work.

on new A50. Until 15th Occober, on new A50. Until 15th Occober, AR Readwatch: Coll 0336 401777 for the latest local and national traffic news. Source: The Automobile Association. Calls sharped at 50th new lates 14th 14th



RAIN OR SHINE... AT LEAST 60 people were injured when cyclone Davina hit Maurithus, officials said yesterday. The cyclone is now heading towards Madagascar after

> Indian Ocean, with winds of up to 108 mph. Government and hospital officials said that 60 people were admitted to hospital and about 1,000 more suffered cuts

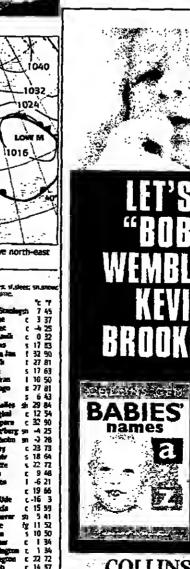
briefly battering Mauritius, in the south-eastern tip of the

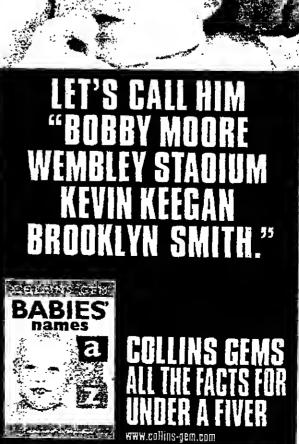
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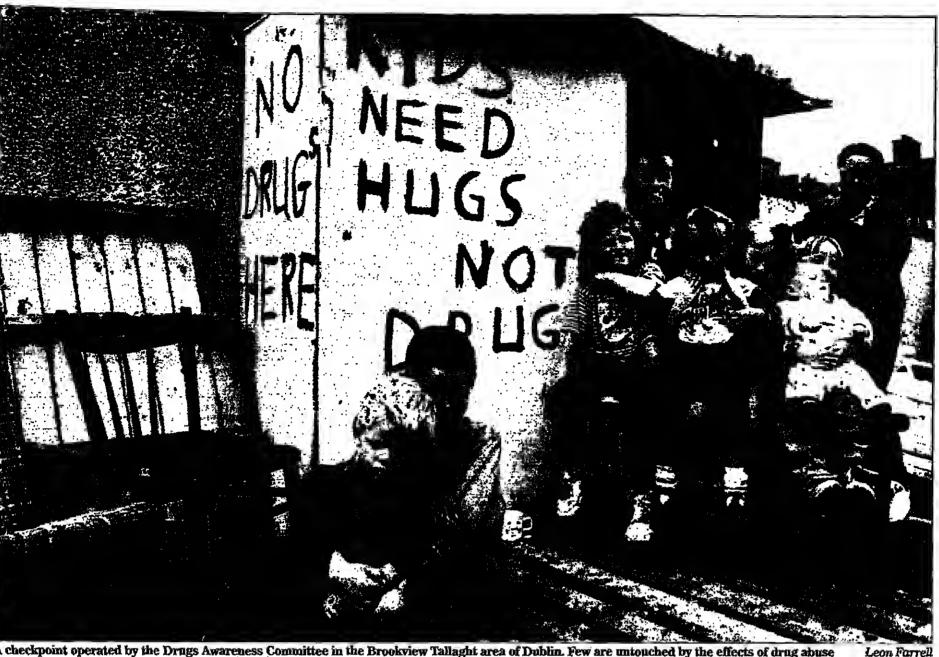
24 hours to 6pm (GMT) Thursday







Addicts import a plague of robbery and violence to Dublin's fair city



A checkpoint operated by the Drugs Awareness Committee in the Brookview Tallaght area of Dublin. Few are untouched by the effects of drug abuse

THE INDEPENDENT Irulay 12 \tanh 1909

BRIAN VINER:

STARS IN HIS EYES MANNA PAVORD ON THE PRIMROSE MPLUS ARTS.

BOOKS, TRAVEL

SEL RRIAN VINER WHILEWA SWITH

TO THE AN ADDRESS. gregiteranti. ep-deprived residents of the galeri by ATTEN OF

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A THE PARTY AND

أنترجه الإنجار

the relentless wall of car alarms, is a reminder of the drugs and crime problem that is blighting one of Europe's most successful cities. Mary . . Che In the past decade or so 30 · L----Dublin has undergone a trans-Burn & formation. Thousands of young, working people have been lured to the inner-city by flats at affordable prices. But the re-Bearing & Pronaissance is being threatened by drug addicts. In prosperous ingrete ... i commercial areas, every shop has security staff on the doors.

licopter blades wakes residents in Dublin of the newly developed apartment blocks near the Grand

Canal in Dublin two or three nights a week. Sometimes flynot swooping in low with its: their own doormen, while local high-powered spotlight, the po-newsegents weary of "jumpovlice helicopter is a persistent ers"-where robbers leap over white-collar, and increasingly vest in closed circuit television.

That noise, together with that did it to me is dead now. He

died of Aids two years ago."

THE MENACING clatter of he- By ALAN MURDOCH

In Patrick Street, the small convenience stores opposite

And there are the stories of sheer horror. One shop worker - one of 2,200 people who remissing. In the Sundrive area ported attacks or threats of such late last year they put up attacks in the city in 1996 - was posters listing names of drug stabbed by a robber armed with a blood-filled syringe. For weeks while he waited for the results of blood tests he was terrified he might have Aids. "I was a nervous wreck," he said. "The guy

The violence is not restricted to robbery. Alan Byrne, 27, a rehabilitated addict, was shot three times in the lower back PJ "the Psycho" Judge, a crim-

in an assassination attempt

last Tuesday in the Coombe who tried to take over Dublin's the profile of the heroin users area as he set off for work. AND ANDREW BUNCOMBE Byrne shared a flat with

osie Dwyer, 41, a HIV-positive heroin addict. They were together on the night in May 1996 when Dwyer was repeatedly attacked and eventually beaten to death in an apparent vigilante mob attack.

calating drugs problem, the tactics of Dublin anti-drug vigilante groups are uncomprodealers to be shot.

As if this were not enough. there are savage internecine "turf wars" between dealers. "Cottoneye Joe" Delaney, 54, an alleged ecstasy dealer, is accused of the torture and murder of a dealer Mark Dwyer, 23,

in December 1996. Similar levels of violence surrounded the operations of

inal with suspected INLA links,

cannahis market in 1996, Judge, 41, who was shot dead two killing five rivals.

One of his suspected victims as William "Jock" Corbally, He reportedly had his teeth pulled out, was beaten with a cut, then thrown into a lime pit left school at 16 or younger. in Co Kildare.

But dealers are willing to risk such violence for a share of a burgeoning market: According to the most recent figures. Dublin now has around 13,000 regular heroin users, up from 8,000 to 10,000 two years ago. Of-ficers based at the Garda headquarters in Dublin's Phoenix Park believe that heroin is now responsible for 80 per cent of the city's crime. Their studies suggest addicts commit 85 per cent of aggravated burglaries, 82 per cent of muggings and 84 per cent

of theft from cars. As with Dublin's population, is largely youthful. A recent survey carried out by a government task force suggested that 72 per cent of heroin users were male, 83 per cent unemployed and 69 per cent lived

with their parents. Two-thirds of those regularly using heroin in the city are under 25, and

Tony Geoghegan, director of the Merchants Quay Project which treats drugs users, said 900 mainly young, first-time drug users sought treatment in the city last year. A high pro-portion of these had begun incting in the last six months.

"You are dealing with high levels of educational disadvantage and poverty, with few having aspirations," he said. "[They come] from areas where there is an established black economy and where maybe the parents were involved in crime or drugs."

The Irish government has

tried to deal with the Dublin's heroin problem. In the early Eighties it used undercover officers whose efforts, accompanied by community action, were effective in tackling dealers who were then less careful about distancing themselves from the product.

And after the 1996 killing of drug dealers, a murder which prompted an international outcry, the Government poured more funds into anti-drues measures. A new Criminal Assets Bureau targeting major dealers was set up.

But as fast as the Garda act, so new dealers move in. The deaths continue, the estates built with short-sightedness in the Sixties continue to be littered with syringes and glass from smashed up cars, while the problems spill over into the newly gentrified areas where the residents are woken at night by the sound of beli-



...but it's still a magnet for the stylish and rich

THERE WAS a time when for BY ALAN MURDOCH much of Dublin's youth, the first opportunity to leave was the opportunity they jumped at. Not any more.

With the help of money from Europe, Dublin has become one of the most fashionable cities of the continent.

The success story of Temple Bar – an older, forgotten area in the city centre and its transformation into the restaurant and club quarter - is well known. But elsewhere the city has also been reborn.

In the Smithfield Market area, new villages have been developed with former distilleries and grain stores turned into modern working and living accommodation. While not everyone is convinced of the value-for-money of these developments, there is little doubt they are changing the face of also grown on northern and western outskirts where hightech plants such as Intel in Leixlip have created thousands of jobs. Similar developments.

have sprung up in the satellite

towns of Blanchardstown.

Swords and Lucan. The revival in the Irish capital's economy has been built on low-pay agreements, tax cuts and incentives for developers complementing a healthy inward investment. Multinationals in turn have been hired by some of Europe's lowest corporation tax rates and the

profit in the European Union.

In central Dublin it has been also driven by arguably the greatest success of the controversial former taoiseach Charles Haughey - the International Financial Services Centre, directly employing 6,500 people and built on formerly derelict dockland. Taking advantage of tax

rent and rates write-offs. builders have erected a forest of private apartment blocks on city homes for thousands in a reversal of a flight to the suburbs stretching from the Fifties to the Eighties.

The building boom has accompanied a revival in city hying, also fostered by Mr Haughey, enlivening older narrow streets.

Key to the continuing Irishq tween state, unions and employers trading wage restraint in return for tax cuts, which has held Irish inflation at low levels for a decade.

This has allowed Ireland to undercut near neighbours with lower wage costs for inward investors. As a result, unemployment fell this month to 6.8 per cent, its lowest level for 16 years, compared with a peak of 18 per cent in the late 1980s.

But this is the backdrop. Front of stage is a city of newfound confidence and newfound opportunities. It is also a promise of the highest rate of city which younger people are not rushing to leave.



Nicole Kidman and Tom Cruise in Eyes Wide Shut'

Kidman unrobed in Kubrick's final legacy

STANLEY KUBRICK, who died BY DAVID LISTER last week, was considered to be Arts News Editor the most radical of directors. But even he, it seems, could not change some cinematic tradi-

A trailer from his final film, Eyes Wide Shut, shown yesterday amid fevered publicity at a US film trade show in Las Vegas, features Nicole Kidman and Tom Cruise in a passionate encounter. Miss Kidman is entirely naked except for ber ear-

rings. Mr Cruise is naked from made the comment that the dithe waist up.

The 90-second clip was personally chosen to be the first preview of his film by Kubrick. who died at his home in Hertfordshire last Sunday aged 70.

latest film, his first since 1987's

Full Metal Jacket. Eyes Wide

separately. Even before Kubrick's death there was huge interest in his

She added cryptically: "When you see the film you will

Shut was filmed under condi-

rector insisted on dealing with

ber and Tom Cruise ther hus-

band both in the film and in life)

tions of total secrecy.

The clip begins with Kidman standing in front of a mirror, approaches her from the side, there was a special screening kissing and caressing her while of the whole film last week sing and caressing her while a blues soundtrack plays. Warner Brothers chairman Terry Semel described the clip

as "short and provocative." After the clip was shown at the trade convention in the USA there was a brief moment of silence before the 3.000 strong andience, composed largely of cinema operators,

burst into applause. It emerged yesterday that

with Cruise and Kidman in New York, which Mr Semel attended. Even though his studio had funded the movie, it was the first time he had seen it. So concerned was Kubrick about secrecy that he reportedly insisted that the projectionist

turn his back during the Filming of Eyes Wide Shut took 15 months. While very lit-

lieved to be a sexual thriller in which Cruise and Kidman play psychiatrists married to each other. loosely based on Arthur Schnitzler's 1926 novella Dream Story.

The film is scheduled to open in America in July, prior to its UK premiere. Mr Semel predicted it would receive an adults only 'R' rating.

My Year With Kubrick, Review, page 10

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Price fixing of medicines to be ended

AN END to price fixing on med- By JEREMY LAURANCE icines was signalled yesterday when the Government's consumer watchdog was given the go-ahead to begin legal moves to abolish the practice.

The Office of Fair Trading for a full court hearing next year which could result in sharp falls in the artificially inflated prices charged for common branded remedies such as painkillers, cough medicines and vitamins. saving consumers an estimated £300m a year.

tive of the supermarket chain, Asda, which has campaigned against price fixing, said after had a case to answer. Giving his the hearing: "The writing is on ruling, Mr Justice Buckley said the wall for resale price maintenance and the drug manufacturers should take the hint had been changes in the way and now voluntarily stop imposing this bealth tax."

Price fixing has been outthe Resale Price Maintenance Act. 1964. Medicines were exempted from the ban in 1970 to ing the OFT, had told the judges protect small chemists' shops, which argued that if they could not make enough profit from the to protect chemists' shops, sale of the medicines many

would be forced to close, leaving large areas of the country without access to medical drugs.

The OFT said that in the last (OFT) will now prepare its case 20 years the market had changed. Chemists sold a wider range of goods and were less dependent on the income they got from the sale of medicines. This had fallen from 10-13 per cent of their total sales in 1970 to 7-8 per cent in the mid-Nineties.

300m a year. Yesterday, the Restrictive
Allan Leighton, chief execubacked the OFT and agreed that the drug manufacturers that he and two lay members felt there was "no doubt" there pharmaceuticals were marketed since 1970.

"We are convinced it is in the lawed on most products under public interest for the court to revisit this matter," he said.

David Oliver QC, representat a hearing last month that there was no longer any reason which had been rising in num-

ber or had remained stable

since 1987. There was also evidence of changing shopping habits, with 62 per cent of people canvassed in a survey saying they visited a chemist to have a prescription dispensed. In 1995, 73 per cent of chemists' turnover was from National Health Service prescriptions compared with 45 per cent in 1970. High-street pharmacists had claimed that lifting the exemption would result in one-quarter of all chemists going out of business.

John Bridgeman, the Director-General of Fair Trading. said: "This is good news for the consumers who have been forced to pay unnecessarily high prices for too long. I began the fight to end price fixing in this sector in 1996 and at last we can now proceed to the High Court. This is the last bastion of resale price maintenance in the economy."

A spokeswoman for the Community Pharmacy Action Group said: "We hope the full hearing will grant us a five-year moratorium so that alternative ways of protecting community pharmacies can be found."

Political broadcast by the Best Friends' Party



Tony Blair and Gordon Brown live on Talk Radio yesterday. They claimed to have 'the strongest political friendship in Britain

THE PRIME MINISTER and the Chancellor of the Exchequer made broadcasting history yes terday by being interviewed

together on the radio. Tony Blair described their relationship as the strongest political friendship in Britain, dismissing stories that claimed Gordon Brown had not forgiven him for hecoming leader of

the Labour Party. For his part, the Chancellor joked that his neighbours at 10 Downing Street were a noisy family, and complained of hearing the Prime Minister playing his guitar too loudly.

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phone in show on Talk Radio.

he regretted having to live in a flat above 10 Downing Street. The two were given a re-markably light grilling by listeners to Scott Chisholm's

Callers to the programme were sceptical about the Budget and focused on ways in

found being Prime Minister which it would make them "remorseless" and said that poorer. Several complained about increases in duty on vehicle fuel. . Mr Brown offered personal-

ly to intervene in the case of a

disabled caller who asked whether he would be eligible for benefit to soften the impact of increased fuel duties. "Why

we will get this sorted out?" said

The Prime Minister lived up to his reputation for false modesty when he said to one caller. "Hello Joyce, Tony Blair here..." before going on to explain why the Government could not afford to scrap the television licence fee for pen-

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£3.3bn British film industry is booming

THE BRITISH film industry is BY DAVID LASTER now a network of small businesses, most of them operating with fewer than 10 employees, a new report shows. It has gone from a world-famous but precarious studio system to a thriving £3.3bn enterprise run by literally thousands of small

The latest edition of Cultural Trends, from the independent Policy Studies Institute state of the film industry as a £3.3bn small business"

It states: "In its postwar heyboasted world-famous production studios such as Ealing, Gainsborough, British Lion, Rank, London Films and British century later, the industry con-

Arts News Editor

sists largely of small companies

with fewer than 10 employees and high numbers of part-time and self-employed workers." The report says that there

are now around 3,000 husinesses engaged in film and video activities. There was an 11 per increase in the total number of film and video busi-(PSD, describes the current nesses between 1996 and 1997. The PSI stresses the indus-

> earnings by film companies from overseas markets rose from The continuing transforma-

tion of the industry is shown by the fact that nearly 80 per cent of all UK film and video enterprises had a turnover of less than £500,000; nearly 90 per cent of film and video businesses had fewer than 10 employees, 98 per cent had fewer than 50 employees, and a total of only 10 companies employed more than 250 people.

Sara Selwood, the editor of Cultural Trends, commented: "The figures confirm that the film industry makes a signifithe economy. Turnover of film economy as well as its identity day, the British film industry and video activities increased by overseas. [But] one of the most 62 per cent, from £3bn in 1995 to striking findings of this report 53.3bn in 1996. United Kingdom is how difficult it is to pull together data about the British film industry."

International Pictures. Half a £587m in 1993 to £572m in 1997. Cultural Trends 30: £25; Tele

McEwan up for top prize

Ian McEwan has been shortlisted for the £85,000 Impac lit- and Dublin corporation. The list

literary prize. McEwan, who won last year's Booker with his novel Amsterdam, now has his earlier Enduring Love among eight contenders for the fiction

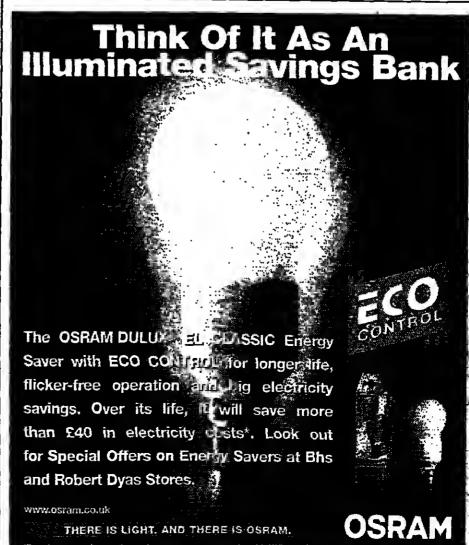
THE BOOKER PRIZE winner By DAVID LISTER

exary award, the world's richest was selected from 100 books nominated by libraries in more than 50 countries.

For the first time a debut novel is listed. Ingenious Pain, by Bristol-born Andrew Miller who lives in Paris, is the story of prize set up 13 years ago by the rise, fall and redemption of management company Impac a man unable to feel pain.

tine by Jim Crace which won the 1997 Whitbread Novel Award; Underworld by Don DeLillo; The Ordinary Seamon by Francisco Goldman; The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle by Haruki Murakami; The Puttermesser Pupers by Cynthia Ozick; and The

Reader by Bernard Schlink The winner will be announced in Dublin on 17 May.





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THE INDEPENDENT

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Unfortunately his escape

came as news to the detectives who contacted Ford last week, hoping to interview Passmore, 53, about the missing spoils of a £6m fraud. They also considered it a

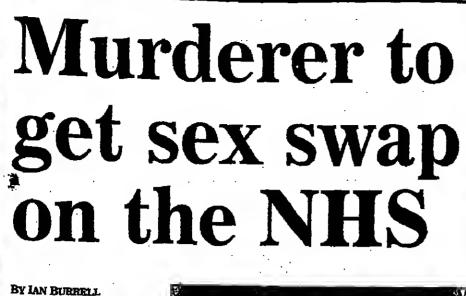
But Passmore proved too wily for officers at Ford, walking out of the prison, near Littlehampton, between 8am and 2pm on 24 February. Detectives from the City of

London police force contacted Ford to arrange an interview with Passmore about the £6m only to be told that he was on the loose.

"They were not happy, to say the very least. We are hopping mad." Last night embarrassed

Prison Service officials were

said: "Open prisons are run on a basis of trust. Mr Passmore has obviously abused that trust and if he is recaptured he will be sent to a closed prison. "He was sent to Ford after a



Home Affairs Correspondent

THE PRISON Service has given the go-ahead for six prisoners, including a murderer, a kidnapper and an armed robber, to

undergo sex changes on the National Health Service. The decision follows a legal challenge by one of the prisoners, who has been fighting an eight-year battle to change his gender. John Pilley a kidnapper serv-

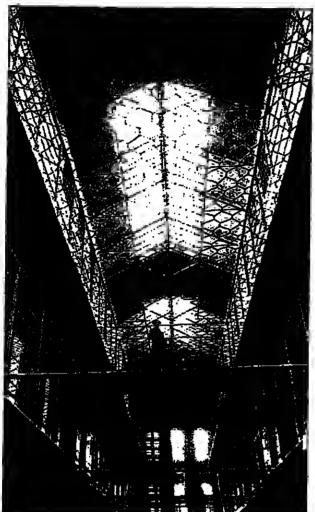
ing a life sentence, will become the first prisoner to undergo "gender reassignment surgery" when he has an orchidectomy in Leicester next month Pilley, who is known as "Jane

Anne", has had more than seven years of hormone-replacement treatment while in jail but took legal action after prison chiefs appeared to be blocking his demands for genital surgery. He argued that having given him treatment enabling him to develop breasts, it was unfair for the Prison Service to leave him in the limbo of being part-man and part-woman. The Independent has

learned that Treasury solicitors, representing the Prison Service, have been instructed not to continue contesting the case. Instead, Michael Longfield, the service's head of healthcare, has told officials at Gartree Prison, near Market Harborough, in Leicestershire, that Pilley can have his operation.

The orchidectomy, which costs around £11,000, is due to take place next month at Leicester Royal Infirmary. Following the operation, Pilley is likely to be transferred to Holloway women's prison in north London. The decision will create a

precedent for at least five other prisoners seeking sex-change operations and pursuing legal cases against the Prison Service. including Philip Taplin, Matthew and David Cross.



Douglas Wakefield hopes to be transferred to a women's jail such as Holloway (left)

The barrister and former Liberal Democrat MP Alex Carlile, who campaigned for transsexual rights in parliament, said the decision was an "important step towards giving transsexuals proper civil liberties".

The Prison Service said yesterday that it was under an obligation to give prisoners the same access to medical care as' ers of the n is now drawing up new guide- tenced to life in jail for the kid- male clothing except between Crown Court in 1974 for mur- failure. Cross, an armed robber they are suffering," she said. | he is still at large."

lines for prison governors on how they should deal with transsexual inmates.

A spokeswoman said: "The general approach is that the prisoner should wait for release. It's not really a suitable environment to take such an irrevocable decision. The problems arise with prisoners serving a long sentence:"

napping of a taxi-driver, Linda Charlesworth, in 1981, is allowed to wear women's cloth-

in which he promises not to put on his female attire in front of other inmates. It reads: "With the exception of underwear, I will keep the articles in my room at all times (apart from has chosen to be called "Dee",

in Devon, more hearable by decorating his cell with lace

ing while he is locked in his cell. He has drawn up a charter

curtains and flowers. The double murderer has been diagnosed by a psychiatrist as having "gender identity disori-

entation". In letters from prison he has said; "Maleness has always been nothing less than an abhorrence to me - something to be threatened and intimidated by I have grown to detest the body I live in."

Wakefield, who is allowed to wear women's ear-rings and

Pilley is a member of

Gartree's therapeutic commu-

such as Philip Taplin and con-victed killer Matthew Richard-

son, 42. Other transsexual

prisoners are scattered around

in the way of specialist support.

lock-up at night and unlock in dering an uncle who had tauntserving 17 years, is anxiously ed him about his sexuality Four years later he strangled fellow prisoner Brian Peake nity which includes other pris- with a shoelace, then stabbed and beat him to death in the

oners seeking sex changes, psychiatric wing of Parkhurst jail on the Isle of Wight in Hampshire, He spent a record 1,200 days in solitary confinethe jail system, often with little ment after twice taking prison officers hostage and trying to Douglas Wakefield makes life in Channings Wood Prison, kill one of them.

Transsexual David Cross, jailed for 17 years for armed robbery, is now known as Kelly Denise Cassidy and Leigh

Now a model prisoner, he says that he could happily live the rest of his life behind bars, provided he was given a sex change and moved to a women's prison. At Parkhurst, David Cross -

now known as Kelly Denise Richards - is taking Androcur, the hormone drug cyproterone acetate, which reduces levels of testosterone.

Although transsexual prisoners such as Cross are terriawaiting his orchidectomy. Dr Russell Reid a consultant psychiatrist who has ad-

vised Cross and other transsexual inmates, said that prison life made it very difficult for inmates to satisfy the necessary criteria before they could be given such a lifechanging operation.

He said: "They must adjust

ccessfully and live and work in their female role for two years before they can be considered for surgery. It is very difficult, though not impossible for them to fulfil that,"

But Susan Marshall of Press for Change, a campaigning organisation which is seeking equal rights for people who have gender identity disorder, said that prisoners were entitled to medical help to change their sex.

"They are supposed to lose fied of stopping such treatment - their liberty but they should not and reverting to men, they are be further punished by removal aware that the prolonged use of of treatment for a recognised

Land planted with GM

crops may fall in value

Master conman slips out of jail

BY IAN BURRELL

FOR A master con man who had spent most of his life exploiting a wide variety of disguises, the feeble security of Ford Open

Sure enough, only two months into his six year sentence, the notorious swindler Anthony Passmore walked straight out of the Sussex jail. He has not been seen for over a fortnight.

disaster. For the Islington born con man is linked to Britnin's most notorious crime gang. the north London-based Adams

Detectives had pursued him for a year before trapping him as he prepared to "sting" London investors for a further £12m by posing as an Irish bank director.

A force spokesman said:

trying to explain why Passmore had been allowed such lax security conditions so early in his sentence. A Prison Service spokesman

rigorous risk-assessment. He failed to appear at a roll-check on the day in question and

Lords agree Jamaican girl's adoption in landmark ruling

THE GRANDPARENTS of a Ja- By JOHN ASTON maican girl yesterday won the legal right to adopt her through a ground-breaking House of

Despite strong Home Office opposition, five law lords unanimously decided that the needs of the child, now nearly 18, outweighed the need to maintain "an effective and consistent immigration policy".

The judgment is likely to

make it easier for UK citizens to adopt children from abroad if it can be shown the move "safeguards and promotes the welfare of the child" throughout childhood, and the child's wish-

es and feelings have been properly taken into account.

"B", who cannot be named, left a background of poverty in Jamaica to stay with her grandparents, both UK citizens, in 1995 when aged 14.

grated to Britain nearly 40 rears ago, decided to adopt B, with her mother's consent, to give her a better start in life. Allowing an appeal against a

Court of Appeal ruling which prevented an adoption order, Lord Hoffman said: "In cases in which it appears to the judge that adoption would confer real

benefits upon the child during its childhood, it is very unlikely that general considerations of maintaining an effective and consistent immigration policy In a written judgment, Lord Hoffmann, sitting with Lords could justify the refusal of an order. The two kinds of consid-. Nicholls, Hope, Hutton and Mileration are hardly commensulett, described how the girl's rable so as to be capable of grandparents, who had emi-

being weighed in the balance against each other." Lord Hoffmann described

where her family lived "in a primitive concrete house without a toilet or electricity".

Her grandparents decided to adopt her as their own child. In October 1997, a High Court Family Division judge ruled in favour of adoption and said the welfare benefits to B "were so strong that immigration policy was insufficient to override them", said Lord Hoffmann.

The Court of Appeal disagreed and said High Court judge Mr Justice Sumner had failed to distinguish the advantages of adoption itself from how the Home Office had or- those of B acquiring a right to dered B to return to Jamaica, live in the UK. Adoption would



Lord Hoffman: Benefits

have no advantages to the child, said the appeal judges. But yesterday Lord Hoffmann, with the four other law lords also agreeing, said the appeal judges had ignored "the considerable benefits" from adoption which B would have

accrued during the remainde

of her childhood.

SURVEYORS WARNED yesterday that farmers who plant genetically modified (GM) crops could see their land values fall, and that tenants of such land might face bills to make up the

The Royal Institute of Char tered Surveyors (RICS) called for the creation of a land register through which potential huyers, and banks, could find out if and when GM crops had been planted or grown on a particular holding.

In a separate move, the Government announced that the independent advisory group on planting of GM crops will inBy CHARLES ARTHUR **Technology Editor**

vestigate the effects on British wildlife and hiodiversity of commercial growing.

minister, said that the remit of the Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment (Acre) has been expanded, and a subgroup set up to examine biodiversity issues. "With these regulations in force, British wildlife species should be protected against effects from the commercial use of GM crops,"

he said in a Lords' written reply. However, the RICS report,

sent to the Government's Office of Science and Technology and other departments, warned that growing such crops might lower the value of the land. In the case of tenant farmers, a landlord Lord Whitty, the environment could, in effect, sue for any

> the tenant growing GM crops. Michael Chambers, director of the RICS's policy unit, said that if commercial growing goes ahead, it would require a permanent register of sites where GM crops were or had been. "It's very hard to see how it could be controlled once you grow on a widespread scale in the countryside," he added.

shortfall in land value caused by



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Inquiry over new findings on Woodward

LAWYERS WHO represented Louise Woodward in her Boston murder trial said yesterday that they will instigate a full scientific inquiry into fresh claims, made in a CBS television news programme at the weekend. that the child who had been in her care, Matthew Eappen, died from strangulation.

The announcement was made by the lawyers in Boston in response to a growing public furore about the strangulation theory. They promised they would be assembling their own experts to study the findings. Eventually an independent inquiry could be launched jointly with prosecutors, they said.

A weekly news show, 60 Min*utes*, aired interviews with two doctors attached to the Children's Hospital in Los Angeles. Cootradicting the prosecution case that Matthew had died from hrain trauma caused by slamming of the head and violent shaking, they contended that he had instead beeo strangled. The strangling, they BY DAVID USBORNE

to two days before his admission to hospital.

Now studying law in London. Ms Woodward was convicted of involuntary manslaughter after the judge in the case nullified an earlier jury verdict of seconddegree murder. She returned to Britain last summer and in January settled a wrongful-death suit with Matthew's parents, Deborah and Sunil Eappen.

If her former lawyers conclude that the strangulation theory is credible, they could move for a new trial and the overturning of Ms Woodward's conviction. But they stressed yesterday that the final decision would have to be made by Ms Woodward herself, "Miss Woodward has always taken the course that would vindicate her and prove her innocent," Barry

Scheck, one of the lawyers, said. The CBS programme reported the findings of Dr Floyd Gilles, who had spent six months

the original trial. He concluded that bruising on the inside of Matthew's neck indicated strangulation, which would have imneded the flow of blood to his brain. His findings were supported in the programme by a

colleague, Dr Marvin Nelson. The claims quickly stirred controversy. A group of 70 doctors sent a searing open letter to CBS saying the network had been irresponsible to give air time to the two doctors and so cause new distress to the Eappens. They called the strangu

latioo theory "preposterous".

A co-ordinator of the letter was Dr Carole Jenny of Brown University Medical School. "I was pretty mystified by how in the world people can come to a conclusion that ... overlooks the skull fracture, the subdural haemorthages and all the other things this child has," she said. CBS has defended the pro-

gramme. Kevin Tedesco, a network spokesman, said: "Our doctors have seen the evidence first-hand. Those doctors who wrote the letter haven't".

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orries go off-shore to avoid tax

EDDIE STOBART, Britain's By PHILIP THORNTON most famous lorry company, is to register up to half of its fleet abroad in protest at the sharp rise in vehicle tax announced in the Budget. The news came as it emerged hauliers are poised to launch a transport strike over rising costs.

The Carlisle-based company will register at least 100 lorries this year in either Luxembourg or Belgium. But Stobart said it from £3,210.

Transport Correspondent

could move oot half of its 800strong fleet.

The move will allow the company to pay Vehicle Excise Duty of just £338 in Luxembourg or £876 in Belgium for its 40-tonne five-axle lorries. This compares with £5,750 in Britain. which the Chancellor increased

vantage of the discrepancy and registers 400 vehicles abroad, the company will save over

The move is known as "flagging out" because it works on the same principle as shipowners who register their fleet with flags of convenience to take advantage of lower tax

Edward Stobart, chairman

If Eddie Stobart takes ad- and chief executive, said that lot of things that they can't do he was making the move to register lorries abroad reluctantly and warned it could have a long-term harmful effect oo

vehicle safety in the UK. "If you register them on the Continent and run them in the UK, the Ministry of Transport can't do anything with you. That will attract unsafe measures and people - though not Stobarts - will get away with a

at the moment"

Mr Stobart said his move was in response to competition from European hauliers who take advantage of the tax discrepancies. "We have European fleets coming into the UK with full tanks of cheaper diesel and leaving with empty tanks, paying no tax to our Govern-



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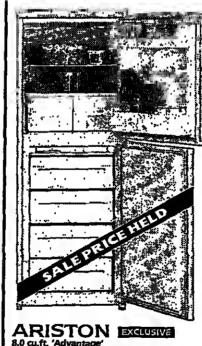


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Teachers to foot bill for 'free' laptops

A ROW erupted yesterday over BY BEN RUSSELL the Government's "computers Education Correspondent. for all" Budget commitment, as teachers revealed that the small print showed they would have to foot the bill.

Teachers said the details it emerged that much of the £20m allocated to fund laptops for teachers would be funding pay for their own computers. They also criticised pilot

plans to improve access to computers by allowing families in deprived areas to rent, for about £5 a month, "recycled" machines discarded by private firms. David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education, announced the scheme yesterday, as he outlined the breakdown of the Government's £400m package to modernise the skills of teachers and the workforce. Under the scheme, schools will be able to buy some computers to lend to staff, and teachers will be offered low-interest loans to pay

for their own computers. Government sources said the loans would offer a better deal than commercial finance packages to help teachers join the "information revolution".

Mr Bhinkett said yesterday: "It is vital that we prevent a generation of children emerging as the information poor.

"Information and communication technology allow us all access to the future and will help underpin prosperity and equality of opportunity into the next century, for young and old alike."

But Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said. "Teachers will be disappointed that their fell short of expectations, after hopes, raised on Tuesday, are dashed on Thursday.

"Schools and teachers are critical to the information age. their own money oo the tools of their trade."

Mr McAvoy also criticised the plans to offer deprived families old computers.

He said: "Out-of-date and discarded computers will oot bridge the gap between the haves and the have-nots. Instead, they will create the haves and the oearly-haves." Government sources insist-

ed the second-hand computers would be bigh-quality machines, obsolete for businesses but still acceptable for use in the home. "There's a lot of computers that businesses upgrade but are still perfectly good," a source said. Mr Blunkett outlined the

"computers for all" scheme as part of a drive to open 800 computer teaching centres in colleges, libraries and husiness across Britain, announced in Tuesday's Budget.

There will also be tax breaks to encourage employers to lend their staff members computers for use at home.

People who take out the Government's new Individual Learning Accounts will get 80 per cent discounts on basic computer training.

IN BRIEF

Fayed's brother gets UK passport

ALI FAYED, the brother of the Harrods owner, Mohamed al-Fayed, has been given a British passport, the Home Office said today. A decision on whether to give a passport to Mr Fayed himself has not yet been taken. The Home Office said that the Home Secretary, Jack Straw was seeking further information before reaching that decision.

Hackney's chief executive quits

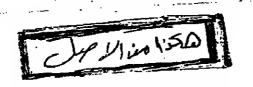
TONY ELLISTON, chief executive of the London borough of Hackney, resigned ahead of what is expected to be a critical Ofsted report. David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education, is expected to take control of Hackney's education department after Ofsted's verdict oext week.

Old wrong brought to light

THE CASE of a 100-year-old man who claims wrongful dismissal from the Irish police force more than 70 years ago is to be looked at again. William Geary moved to the United States after his sacking in 1928 for allegedly taking a £100 bribe from the IRA; he has always denied the charge.

Scientists make four-legged hens

CHICKS HAVE been made to grow rudimentary clawed . legs instead of wings, it was revealed yesterday. Scientists in America took a gene found in legs and transferred it to the wings of chicken embryos, causing feathers to vanish and the beginnings of clawed fingers to appear.



INSTANT CREDIT

PEACE OF MIND

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make four-legged he



hopes of hosting the World Cup in 2006 were given a massive boost yesterday when a consortium led by the FA sealed a deal to take control of Wembley stadium.

Shareholders in Wembley plc, the private company which owns the stadium, yesterday voted overwhelmingly to sell the famous Twin Towers to the consortium for £103m.

The vote marks the end of a tortuous, four-year process to close the sale. It also ended a last-ditch attempt by two private leisure companies and three dissident Wembley directors to renegotiate the agreement.

A host of luminaries involved in England's World Cup bid welcomed the news. Sir Bobby Chariton, a member of England's 1966 World Cup-winning side said: "The current Wembley was regarded as one of the wonders of the sporting world when it was built in the Twenties, and I am sure that is what we will think when the new stadium is unveiled."

Chris Smith, the Secretary of

THE FOOTBALL Association's By PETER THAL LARSEN

State for Culture, Media and Sport, said: "The new Wembley is at the heart of our bid to secure a number of major in-ternational events including of course, the 2006 World Cup. This is more excellent news for these campaigns."

Alec McGivan, England's

2006 campaign director, promised that the new Wembley would be "the finest stadium in the world".

Under the terms of the deal Wembley is being sold to the English National Stadium Development Company - a con-sortium backed by the FA and partly funded with National Lottery money. The consortrum plans to spend £200m on building the new stadium.

Bob Stubbs, the chief executive of the consortium, said the designs for the new stadium would be finalised in the summer and a planning application would be submitted in September. That would clear the way for demolition work to begin in September 2000.



Sir Bobby Charlton and Sir Geoff Hurst reliving World Cup glory at Wembley yesterday

Wembley, which was completed in 1923, is a listed building and the consortium will have to convince the planning committee at Brent Council in north-west London - and National Heritage – that the new design is an improvement. Designs are being drawn up by a team of architects led by Sir Norman Foster.

Until the last moment, however, the sale was shrouded in

controversy. Small shareholders who attended the extraordinary general meeting yesterday morning opposed the sale. However, they were overwhelmingly out-voted by several large fund managers allowing the sale to be cleared

with a 79 per cent majority. The controversy follows a long-running campaign by three non-executive directors of Wembley - Peter Mead, Jarvis

Astaire and Roger Brooke - to block the sale. The three, who argued that the deal under-valued the stadium, had encouraged rival leisure companies to make a bid for Wembley pic. Both ENIC, the football in-

vestment group which controls per cent of Glasgow Rangers, and SFX Entertainment, a US leisure giant, indicated they were willing to bley plc if the vote was postpooed. However, they were bley's board - a decision which was ratified by the shareholders yesterday.

Last night, Mr Mead said small shareholders in Wembley had been "filibustered by the corporate equivalent of the

However, sources close to

farmer admits cruelty BY KATE WATSON-SMYTH

Mink

A MINK FARMER whose animals were released by anti-fur activists, was yesterday fined after admitting a string of cruelty charges and breaches of welfare regulations.

Terence Smith was fined 25,000 and ordered to pay £15.000 costs by magistrates at Lyndhurst in Hamoshire, It is the first time a British fur factory farmer has been prosecuted for cruelty.

Oba Nsugoe, for the prosecution, told magistrates that members of the group Respect for Animals had carried out a three-month investigation into conditions at Crow Hill Top Farm near Burley in Hampshire, between September and November 1997

They passed their evidence, which included video footage and photographs, to the RSPCA and the Ministry of Agriculture. Fisheries and Food who brought the case to court.

Mr Nsugbe said animal wellare officers from Hampshire County Council had been sent to the farm which was very dilapidated. "Blocked drains were overflowing with maggots and faeces and on that occasion they did see o number

The court beard that some of the animals were so badly burt that bones were protrud ing from infected wounds and others had to be put down.

ified animal activists released 6,000 of the farm's mink into the wild, causing mass hysteria among the local population and fears of an ecological disaster.

Robert Grey, for the defence. said the problems had begun after the farm was attacked. The damage to the cages meant the mink could attack each other and it was impossible to tell which family group they belonged to. Smith, who trades under the

name of TT Smith (Mink) Ltd. refused to comment. Lucy Clark, of the RSPCA said the charity was pleased about the conviction but dis-

appointed that Smith had not

en banned from keeping

bill for Tycoon who stole BCCI's £750m jailed THE MAN who broke the Bank BY KIM SENGUPTA Lord Justice Rose, giving the ruling of the court, said that His sentence was the steepest tence, Gokal was ordered to pay ment against him should have

years lost his appeal yesterday gainst conviction.

Abbas Gokal, a Pakistaniborn shipping tycoon, was a key role in the \$20bn (£12.5bn) collapse of the bank. He had, said the prosecution, siphoned Gokal said he was innocent.

Gokal, 62, was in the dock yesterday as Lord Justice Rose, sitting with Mr Justice Latham and Mr Justice Colman, rejected his appeal during found guilty in 1997 of playing a 90-minute hearing in London. The former businessman

was convicted by a jury of conspiracy to defraud and consome \$1.2bn (£750m) through a spiracy to account falsely, at the the Old Bailey, costing £4.5m.

of its kind to be handed out by a British court.

The trial judge, Mr Justice Buxton, said Gokal's actions had threatened the integrity of the entire international banking system. The judge added that Gokal was "an intelligent, sophisticated and unscrupulous man, who put the interests of Gokal, who was arrested in yourself and your family before Germany in 1994, was brought

£2.9m out of his personal assets within two years, or face another three years in prison.

QC, submitted that Gokal's convictions on both counts were "unsafe". The main grounds centred on the circumstances in which

been "stayed as an abuse of the process of the court". But the judges ruled yes-Gokal's counsel, Alun Jones

terday that this claim was "unfounded" and "without substance".

Gokal's other grounds, including submissions that the evidence of BCCI depositors was wrongly admitted and also judge said. that the trial judge's summing . He claimed that the indict- were also rejected.

the prosecution case against Gokal of his dishonest participation in the two conspiracies was "overwhelming". It was a highly-sophisticated

fraud with "international conand Gokal was "at its heart", the The court further ruled that

to Gokal was "correct".



delay the meeting would have

undermined the deal to sell the

stadium. Under the terms of the

agreement, the sale would fall

Yesterday Sir David Hill-

Wood, the chairman of the FA's

treasury committee and a

shareholder in Wembley plc,

told the shareholder meeting

any attempt to renegotiate the

through if it had not been com-

pleted by 15 March.

of its kind ruled 'correct' mink in the future.

of the state of th From the Director of 'The Nutty Professor' and 'Liar Liar' Laughter is contagious. 拉斯 雪輪尾毛折距射 氢甲酸 眼路與爪尾海鳴爪 二胂基基 使形形 物細層縣 西形科科

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of injured mink," he said Last July a group of uniden-

Brief whiff of reality amid a lot of mucky farm business

writer this particular parliamentary chore carries all the seductive allure of a pre-dawn milking on a gressivity" and "CAP reform", they ponder the difficulties of "Com- been up all night trudging through mission infraction proceedings". the mire of Common Agricultural But they hardly ever use a noun that Policy reform. An agreement has

AGRICULTURE QUESTIONS are were references to "pork" at one seems a good enough excuse for a rarely thrilling. For the sketch point, and a faint whiff of livestock lie-in, but naturally MPs are wary. briefly penetrated the dolorous fragrance of ring-binders and registration dockets but the bureaucratic rainy winter's day, though obvi- vapour soon closed in again. The ously without the mud on one's most bucolic moment was the sight boots. Or the smell Indeed, it is one of Desmond Swayne charging into of the peculiarities of this session a supplementary about GM food that it is so detached from the with his nostrils flaring wildly. All physical facts of the countryside. he needed was a ring through his Ministers talk of "transparent sup- nose and the impression of an enport structures", they tut over "di-raged bull would have been perfect.

The minister was away, having still has earth attached to it. There apparently been concluded, which boom at the back pours an even

Tomorrow they will hear the details of this hard-won deal/ignoble capitulation (delete according to party prejudices). The rest of us will have to wait for Phil Archer to have one of those chinkily instructive chats with David before the full implications to sink in. In the meantime, with Elliot Morley standing in for his exhausted boss, we got the official headline: cheaper prices for consumers. Mr Morley is a kind of combine harvester when it they go in the front and out of the THE SKETCH

THOMAS SUTCLIFFE

comes to parliamentary questions; stream of reassurances and processed statistics. If you want something a little more human in

natter over a five-barred gate, you have to wait for Jeff Rooker. He was positively hugger-mugger after a owners - apparently faced with costs. I have to choose my words carefully, said Mr Rooker, "because of the lawyers and our friends should wait to see what happened before panicking. He didn't quite lay his finger along his nose and wink but it wasn't far short. Mr Bradshaw looked unconvinced.

The minister was even less plau-

manner, more redolent of a quiet sible on the Government's repeated claim that the experimental planting of GM plants only amounts to "two football pitches". The footstrong intervention from Ben Brad- ball pitch has clearly been chosen shaw on behalf of small abattoir as a New Labour unit of measurement because it has the right demassive increases in inspection motic ring and delivers a low number. Suggestions that the acreage be described as one and a third polo pitches were dismissed across the water", but owners and it was felt paraphrasing the area as 105 croquet lawns might be alarming. They'll have to think of something else, because Tory backbenchers have rumbled that the number is so low only because it is

winter and nothing has been plant-

ed yet. In a few months, James Gray said, something more like 400 football pitches would be hurgeoning with alien plant forms. Get ready for

the golf course standard unit. The front bench is not exactly consistent on food prices either, trapped between its double constituency of producers and consumers. The reform package was apparently good news because it would lower prices but Mr Rooker later noted that prices for British pork had been rising. "That's a wel-come trend", he said, "and we will do all we can to promote it". Vote Labour - and we'll put up the price of your Sunday roast.

Tories

Budget leaflet

BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

condemn

watchdog has been called on to investigate claims that the Government wasted taxpay-

ers' money on misleading "pro-

paganda" about the Budget.

The Tories lodged a formal

complaint with Sir John Bourn,

the Comptroller and Auditor

General, about more than a

million leaflets issued by the

Treasury summarising the tax

The Chancellor, Gordon

Brown, had wanted to send the leaflets to every one of

Britain's 24 million households,

but decided to issue just

1.25 million to Post Offices,

libraries and universities after

But Francis Maude, the

Shadow Chancellor, said that

the leaflet was still a misuse of

money because it gave a biased

and inaccurate picture of the

In a letter to Sir John, who

heads the National Audit Office.

Mr Maude said that the leaflet

omitted key measures that

were likely to prove unpopular.

such as higher stamp duty, fuel

taxes and alterations to na-

tional insurance contributions

Information about the new children's tax credit did not say that it would be tapered for

higher-rate taxpayers: Other

the high interest rates of the

Tories administration with

Mr Maude said the leaflets should be independently scrutinised by Parliament. "Gordon

today's levels.

for the self-employed.

Treasury officials objected.

changes.

Budget.

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volution

Education cash 'wasted on gimmicks'

GORDON BROWN'S failure to invest more money in education in Tuesday's Budget came under fire yesterday from all sides of the House.

David Willetts, the Conservative Education spokesman, led the attack, complaining that expenditure limits were essentially unchanged from those set previously.

But the Secretary of State for Education, David Blunkett be hard to persuade party rebutted the claims, saying lowincome families could soon be the basic rate of income tax able to huy computers at dis-rather than spend money on count prices in a drive to bridge the gap between the "computer haves and have nots".

He added that the initiative was part of a £400m package announced in the Budget to encourage greater computer literacy and a £20m scheme was educational being set up to provide subsidised loans for teachers to buy computers. But, during yesterday's debate on Budget education spending, Mr Willetts said that the extra cash had already been outlined as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review in July 1998.

BY SARAH SCHAEFFER Political Reporter

school to huy books were a "classic example", he said. The Government did not trust schools to operate their own hudgets and instead was interested only in funding "gimmicks", he added Some Labour backbenchers are worried it will members to support a 1p cut in health and education.

Don Foster, the Liberal Democrat Education spokesman, said instead of cutting the basic rate of income tax to 22p, an investment in education would have a "direct impact on standards" because of the link between poor education and poverty.

Mr Blunkett insisted there was a "crucial flaw" in this argument because the money was not part of a £19bn sum given to education last summer "On top of that the Treasury have allocated an additional The £2.000 "gift" for every £561m this week." he said.

Mr Foster said his party welcomed extra money for books but suggested schools should have been allowed to decide how to spend the extra money themselves. He claimed helping teachers to obtain laptop computers would mean only a 4 per cent increase in the numbers with access to laptops. from 2.5 per cent.

Ian Pearson, the Labour MP for Dudley South expressed concern that road hauliers would suffer from the increased duty on fuel. In five to 10 years time, people would wonder why more money was not invested in cleaner fuel technology "rather than penalising our road haulage industry", he said.

Mr Pearson said: "We are spending £6.1bn as a Government on research and development-less than 2.5 per cent of that is going to the experimental development gap.

"If we are going to get better at turning inventions into innovations and commercially exploiting them, then we have really got to look at the main funding streams in Britain," Mr Pearson added.



The Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott refuelling a taxi with compressed natural gas yesterday in Bombay His visit to India, with a delegation of businessmen, aims to improve trade with India.

Push-button voting on trial next year

ELECTORAL REFORM
BY PAUL WAUGH
Political Correspondent

ELECTRONIC VOTING could be introduced to Britain for the first time next year under radical plans announced by the Government yesterday to

speed up election results. Traditional pencil and ballot paper voting could be replaced by European-style computerised booths that allow electors to cast their vote at the touch of a button. The new system is set to be tested in the elections for London's Mayor and Assembly in May next year, Nick Raynsford, the Minister for London, announced in

the House of Commons. Mr Raynsford told MPs that he was looking into the possibility of using new systems to improve the efficiency of the voting process. In a written Parliamentary reply, Mr Raynsford revealed that the Department of the Environment,

Plea over bank

account scam

DENNIS SKINNER, Labour

MP for Bolsover, urged the

Government to "sort out" a

loophole allowing crooks to

move cash from someone

else's bank account. He

said a television inquiry

to siphon money from

Odd couple

MP for Linlithgow, in

criticising continued air

Peer pressure

THE GOVERNMENT lost in

the Lords as peers, during

the detailed report stage of

Commission Bill, backed a

the Disability Rights

had shown how easy it was

accounts using the holder's

name and account number.

NICHOLAS SOAMES, former

Tory armed forces minister,

joined Tam Dalyell, Labour

strikes against Iraq without

the authority of Parliament

Mr Raynsford: Aiming to

Transport and the Regions had yesterday invited tenders for the work in the Tenders Elec-

tronic Daily publication. "This would enable votes in the first Greater London Authority elections to be electronically recorded and counted. The new authority will be modern, streamlined and efficient and we should

THE HOUSE

Commission to have the

Government but also its

agencies on the practical

application of any law.

Gut reaction

upset when Lucy, David

Blunkett's guide dog, was

sick on the carpet near the

vernment frontbench

opposition shadow, David

Willetts. Liberal Democrat

education spokesman Don

contribution to the debate,

"sense of nausea" when Mr

Willetts spoke. Mr Blunkett

Foster later referred to

Lucy's behaviour in his

saying he often felt a

said Lucy was "fine".

during a speech by his

THE COMMONS suffered an

right to advise not only the

improve efficiency

work towards a voting system to match," Mr Raynsford said.

they could be introduced to

The London elections will be more complex than normal polls, with voters facing a proportional system for mayor, single-member constituency assembly members and top-up

assembly members. As well as computer keypad voting booths, the Government is also considering introducing electronic counting machines to replace the current method of counting by hand. Both techniques are aimed at removing completely the need for recounts that often delay results in marginal seats for hours. If the measures work for London,

national elections. However, Mr Raynsford stressed that no changes would be introduced unless they were rigorously tested first. "Our priority is to run a successful election on 4 May 2000 so we will be looking at systems which have proved extremely reliable in national or regional elections elsewhere," he said.

Brown's leaflet takes Budget

mis-selling to new levels of deception. It is littered with party political propaganda, omissions and irrelevancies," he said. "After the Chancellor's 'stealth Budget', the British are being bombarded with the stealth leaflet. It purports to be a factual summary of the Budget from Her Majesty's Treasury, but in truth it is a disgrace

to the traditions of impartiality of the Civil Service." Mr Maude also called on Sir Andrew Turnbull, the permanent secretary at the Treasury, to investigate "this flagrant

abuse of taxpayers' money".

The Tories yesterday also claimed that the Budget would hit pensioner couples hard with its scrapping of the married couples allowance (MCA).

Jain Duncan Smith, the Tory social security spokesman, said that the Chancellor had failed to publicise the fact that all pensioners from next year would lose the MCA.

Cost of logo 'only £26,000'

A CONTROVERSIAL new logo for the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. described by critics as a mere "blob" will cost £26,000 rather than £79,000. as originally reported, the Secretary of State, Chris Smith said yesterday.

Two weeks off

THE LEADER of the House of Commons, Margaret Beckett announced that the Commons will rise on Wednesday, 31 March for the Easter break, returning on Tuesday 13 April. The Lords rises on the same day but returns a day earlier on Monday, 12 April

Lockerble cost

AN EXTRA 21m is being allocated for Scottish law and order, mainly to cover costs connected with holding a trial in the Netherlands of the

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Lockerbie bombing suspects, the Secretary of State for Scotland, Donald Dewar disclosed. Two hundred and seventy people were killed as a result of the 1988 hombing of a Pan Am jumbo jet which crashed on to the market town of Lockerbie.

Today's Agenda

Commons: 9,20am Backbench Business: Mental Health (Amendment) (Scotland)

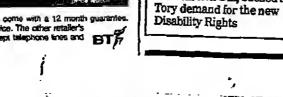
Bus Fuel Duty (Exemptions) Bill, second reading Short debate on administration of subsidy payments to farmers, Lords: Not sitting.



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ed yet in a few months, James Gray
a said, something more like 400 foot
a limit pitches would be burgeoing
with alarn plant forms. Get ready for
the golf course standard unit.
The front bench is not exact.

The front bench is not easily consistent on food prices either stituency of producers and consistent that reform package was since the science of the reform package was bounded by representative and medical biotechy. Appletently fewel news because it interest that prices for British had been rising. That a second and medical biotechnology companies, whose names have not yet been made public.

The initiative aims to boost tance transit, he said "and se all to wil we can to inomote it. The Frequent many hand the later of the

Lord Sainsbury to head biotech team

LORD SAINSBURY, the minister BY FRAN ABRAMS at the centre of the recent controversy over genetically modified (GM) food, is to head a government team to promote GM food companies, The

Westminster Correspondent

"clusters" of biotechnology companies that have sprung up in Oxford, Cambridge and Dundee. Lord Sainsbury has major interests in companies developing the technology for GM foods. These interests are now

in a blind trust and he has

promised not to get involved in

policy-making on GM food, But

for leading a biotechnology trade mission to Korsa and for sitting on a cabinet sub-committee dealing with the issue. News of the initiative drew an angry reaction from environmental campaigners, in-

A spokeswoman for the Decluding the Liberal Democrat. partment of Trade and Indus-Norman Baker, MP for Lewes. try said that the group would only deal "very remotely" with - Mr Baker said that the Gov-GM food issues. "The policy iserriment had given assurances that Lord Sainsbury would not sues here are about promoting

he has already been criticised be involved in decisions or dis- industry within the cluster cussions on the subject. "Either arrangement. It isn't about promoting GM foods," she said. he is involved and we have been lied to, or he is a lame

The group is to visit Camduck chairman because he bridge, Oxford, Scotland and two US-based biotechnology can't talk about these things. He clusters. It will also hold brainshould be replaced," he said. storming meetings with industry, planning authorities, science park managers and universities. Officials from the Department of Trade and Industry will make information-

will publish a report.

Among the companies in the Cambridge biotechnology cluster is Axis Genetics, which is developing vaccines from plants. Its chief executive, Iain Cubitt, sat on the board of the Sainsbury Laboratory, which is financed by the Science minister's charity, the Gatsby Foundation.

Other firms that could be involved include Plant Breeding

gathering visits, and the team International in Cambridge. which runs a number of test sites for GM crops, and the Scottish Crop Research Institute in Dundee.

The Science minister has been looking increasingly embattled as revelations about his role appear to contradict his statements on the issue. Lord Sainsbury, whose shareholding in the supermarket is in a blind trust, has also taken

charge of another government consultation to which the issue of GM food and crops is central.

The Government has asked the polisters Mori to run a series of focus groups to canvas public opinion on GM crops, genetic testing and cloning.

Lord Sainsbury chaired a conference on the consultation in December and took part in a discussion on it in a cabinet

condem in constant leaflet

BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

Astone s throw away and the Chancellot Got original boutique.

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Budget revolution SONIA Rykiel, the godmother By REBECCA LOWTHORPE

Radical chic

Autumn/Winter 2000 collection in Paris yesterday. Rykiel opened her first boutique in PARLIAMENTS FINANCE Paris on the Lett Bank in the watchdog has been called at the year of the student uprising. Even today she prides herself investigate claims that investigate claims that a for having dressed that Government wasted to for naving introducing easy, the manus on miclaster revolution, introducing easy, revolution, introducing easy, unstructured clothes that were simuous and sexy and quintescomplant with Sir John but the Comptroller and Author Changed little since then, and the changed little since then are changed little since the changed l

tirraril, about more to her flagship store remains a rullion leaffels issued by landmark on the fashionable Treasury summarising be boulevard Saint-Germain, only

that decided to save a ways fresh and of the moment.

literature and universities particularly fine. She updated from un officials objeted her great knitwear with Mon-But Francis Much & golian lamb collars that kissed Shadow Chancelle side the models faces as they the leader was still among sashayed down the runway. there's because a careful Indeed, lips featured throughand massurate passed out the collection - in a typical witty twist, diamanté lipstick in a letter to States prints were appliqued onto

hand the Natural lake skinny sweaters - and even ap-

Rykiel's clothes are predominantly black they are also typically French. But this time around, she introduced more vivid colour to her collection: flashes of magenta, purple and orange lifted the proceedings, best seen gracing metallic spike-heeled boots.

For evening, the little black dress came out in all its guises and to suit all shapes and sizes of women - Rykiel is a mistress of this particular craft. In devoré or matt crepe jersey, they were slashed to the navel, split to the thigh and either super-sexy or the height of Parisian elegance. When the designer appeared

at the end of her show, flanked by models, she reached out to her audience like the queen of France. She is extraordinary. Aged almost 70 and still a working mother, her hair is as flame-red as it ever was, her make up as dramatic, and her clothes as desirable. She is perhaps the best advertisement of them of all. Is the supermodel era over?

Review, page 8







Models at Thierry Mugler's 1999/2000 Autumn/Winter show yesterday wearing headdresses in velvet and satin, left, and lace

Child death inquiry reopens

BY CHRIS HAMILTON

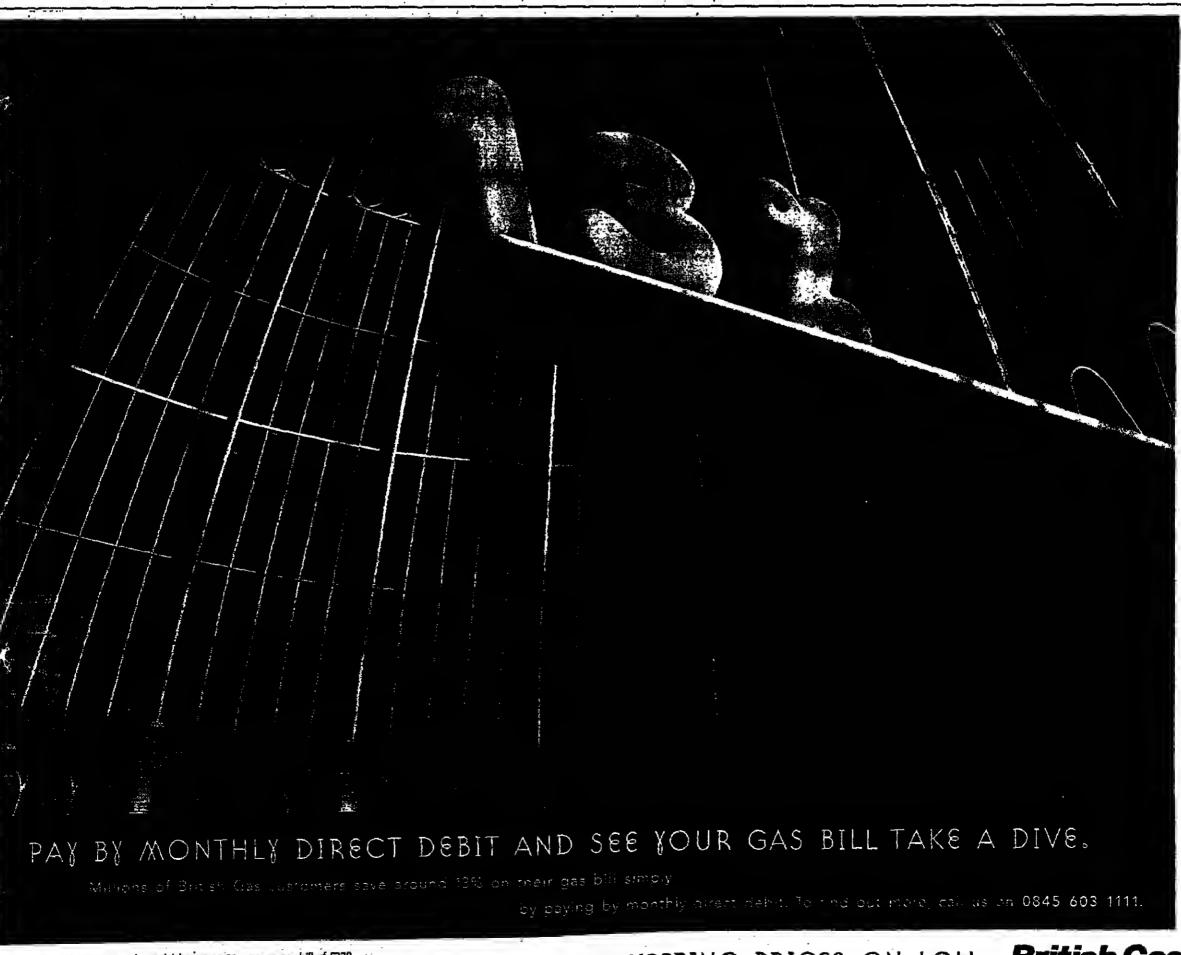
THE BODY of one of two "Babes in the Wood" children who died 29 years ago has been exhumed by detectives thought to be investigating paedophile involvement in their deaths.

Susan Blatchford, 11, van ished with her 12-year-old school friend Gary Hanlon from their homes at Enfield, north London, in March 1970. Their bodies were found in a local copse 11 weeks later,

The cause of their deaths was never established, but police and the parents are convinced they were murdered.

The case was re-opened in 1984, after newspaper cuttings and photographs of young girls thought to be the victims of sex attacks were found at a house in the Home Counties, and again in 1996. Scotland Yard said yesterday that officers had dug up Susan's body from St James's Church in Enfield last week "in connection with a murder inquiry in 1970". A spokeswoman added: "There was a forensic examination. No arrests have been made."

Susan's mother Muriel Blatchford, now 78, was said to be "absolutely devastated" at the exhumation.



KEEPING PRICES ON LOW.

British Gas Home Energy

Council tax rises 'twice inflation'

BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

THE GOVERNMENT was accused of taxing Britain "by stealth" yesterday when a new survey claimed that council taxes across the country would rise by more than twice the rate of inflation.

The Tories attempted to take the shine off the Budget announced by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, on Tuesday by seiz-ing on a report which found that councils in England and Wales were about to put up hills by 6.9 per cent.

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountants (CIPFA) found that an average band D bome would face the rise when bills for 1999-2000 drop through letterboxes next

The survey found wide variations around the country, with Liverpool the most expensive at £1.17I for an average home and Westminster the cheapest

Following a survey of 92 per cent of all authorities, the CIPFA found that millions of average housebolds would be paying an extra £51 a year. However, the average figures hide some huge differences between individual authorities which have been caused by historical levels of cuts and

1999-2000 PREDICTIONS

Average Band D Tax for Homes worth between

£68,000 to) £88,000), by local authority		
Most expensive	10	Least expensive 10		
Liverpooi	£1,171	Kensington and Chelsea	£580	
Redcar and Cleveland	£1,032	Cardiff	£572	
North Lincolnshire	£997	Torfaen	£583	
Bristol	£992	Powys	£551	
Manchester	£987	Pembrokeshire	£542	
Salford	£980	Corp of London	£536	
Hartlepool	£978	Vale of Glamorgan	£532	
Newcastle upon Tyne	£977	Newport	£530	
Wirral	£977	Wandsworth	£373	
Knowsley	£970	Westminster	350	

more than £100 a year higher

than when Labour came to

power - a stealth tax of £2 a

State for the Environment,

Transport and the Regions likes to pretend that this year's

settlement was the most gen-

erous ever. But he hasn't given councils enough money to fund

the raft of expensive promises

British people have to pick up

which Labour made. Now the

However, Mr Prescott said

that similar predictions about

council tax rises last year had

not come true. Bills had been

forecast to go up by 11 or 12 per

cent, but turned out to be some-

Councils had received their

thing over 8 per cent, he said.

biggest funding increase ever

"John Prescott [Secretary of

week," he said.

The largest increase in real taxes on ordinary families are terms will be in South Camers face a rise of £106, or 17 per cent, on average. By contrast, Hackney, Islington, Greenwich and even Liverpool will have bills frozen. Councils claim that their budgets will have to go up by an average of 5.3 per cent, hut a smaller rise in govern-ment grant will necessitate more money being made up by local taxoavers.

Richard Ottaway, the Tory spokesman on local government, said that rural areas would be hardest hit because the funding formula had been "fiddled" to shift funds from Tory areas to urban Labour heartlands.

"These latest figures show that the Government is imposing yet another stealth tax on hard-working people. Council

record money for education, he said. "People are now predicting council tax rises. I don't get the information from councils until the 17th [of March]. I must wait for the information. Until councils come to their decisions, you can't make the assessment," he told BBC Radio 4's Today programme.

Mr Prescott has warned that boroughs which push up bills by more than 4.5 per cent will face budget capping, but he will not apply "crude and universal" caps as the previous govern-The Liberal Democrat local

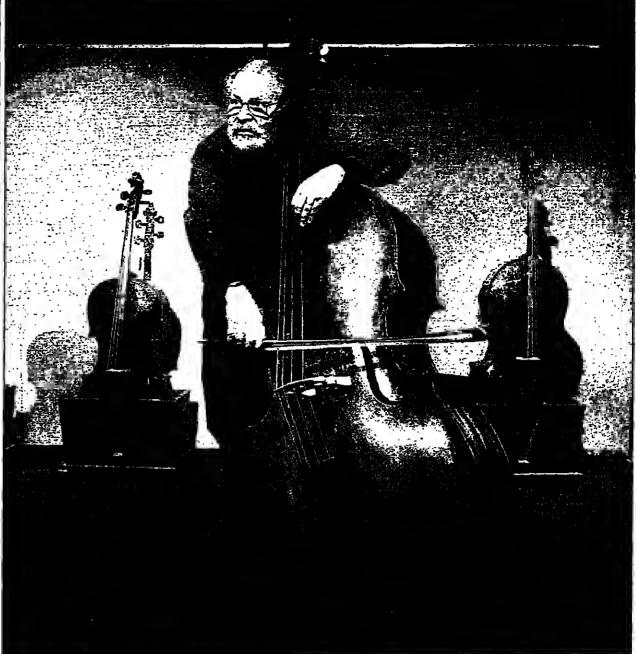
vernment spokesman, Paul Burstow, said councils faced a 'serious shortfall" in their budgets which they would have to make up to ensure that education and social services were properly funded. "Once again, the Govern-ment have used spin and false

accounting to hide a Treasury-

led attack on our public services, leaving council bosses to take the hlame for Gordon Brown's spending decisions." The worst hit areas will be in East Anglia, where bills will go up by 9.6 per cent, Waies (14.8 per cent), the West Mid-

South-east (8.8 per cent). The lowest rises will be in the North and North-west, both of for the coming year, including 7.3 per cent.

lands (9.1 per cent) and the



which will see taxes go up by Tom Martin, former principal bassist with the London Symphony Orchestra, trying out a Domenico Montagnana double bass, made around 1747, which is expected to fetch up to £350,000 at Sotheby's on Tuesday Tom Pilston

Maxwell cleared of contempt of court

KEVIN MAXWELL, son of the BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE disgraced media tycoon Robert Maxwell, was yesterday cleared of allegations of contempt of court over his refusal to be interrogated by inspectors evestigating the Mirror Group.

The decision, by a High Court judge, represents a considerable victory for Mr Maxwell after an eight-year saga of ongoing inquiries. Mr Maxwell had argued that because he had been refused

legal aid to appoint a solicitor while being questioned, he had vestigators. As a result of this he was charged with contempt. While yesterday's decision will not keep Mr Maxwell away from the investigators, it means

they will have to inform him of their questions in advance and abide by other formalities.

ing could place on Mr Maxwell was "at risk of going beyond that which an unrepresented individual can reasonably be required to accept". Sir Richard said the inspectors - appointed by the Department of Trade and Industry - should keep their questions to a minimum and tell Mr Maxwell in advance what

they wanted to ask him about. If this was done, Mr Maxwell would have no further excuse

Later, Mr Maxwell, eldest son of the former owner of Mirror Group Newspapers, emerged from court saying he thought the decision was a victory for common sense. "Unless they change their procedures, there is no obligation on me to

swer if they created a set of fair procedures and a fair regime. Now the court has decided to protect me as an individual."

Two inspectors, Sir Roger Thomas and Raymond Turner, were appointed by the DTI in June 1992 to investigate the affairs of MGN, with particular regard to the £500m flotation of the company in 1991. The investigation was sus-

pended when Mr Maxwell and . others stood trial on charges brought by the Serious Fraud Office over his father's business alings. It resumed after be was acquitted on all counts.

A spokesman for the DTI said after yesterday's ruling that it was now hoping for a speedy conclusion to the investigation. "We are hopeful that this decision will have hroken the impasse and that the





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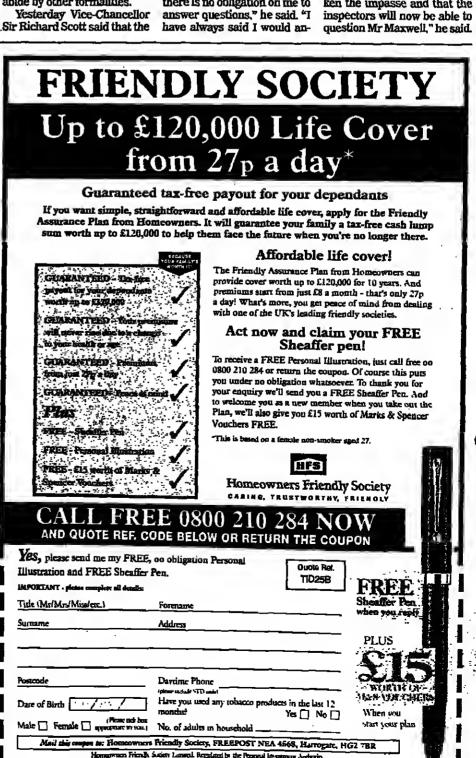
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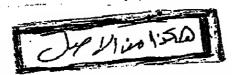
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THE INDEPENDENT

rying out a Domenico Montagas sothels s on Tuesday Tom Pilds

Race begins to make first baby of 2000

THE FIRST bandwagon of the BY PAUL MCCANN new millennium is already starting to look crowded thanks to newspapers, radio stations and television channels jumpstarting the race for the first

a conception countdown. If cou- at the start of the millennium." ples conceive between 17 March and the end of April they have the best chance of bringing in the new year with a new baby.

To exploit the hype and get ouples in the mood, Classic S'M radio station plans an evening of "smooth classics" on 20 March. And on 10 April, ITV will devote an entire evening of programmes to the subject of sex and conception.

The BBC is planning a Tomorrow's World special in April lives of those born next year And later in the year both the mothers who have a 1 January due date to follow through their

for the next Seven-Up," said a year, the money could range BBC insider, referring to the long-running Michael Apted Piers Morgan, editor of The

Media Editor

documentary series that has followed a generation of chil-dren since 1964. "Babies we can go back to and follow throughout their lives from their birth

ITV is calling its series Birthrace 2000 in acknowledge ment that there is likely to be a winner from all the bedroom activity taking place over the next six weeks, for the first born will be the recipient of media interest and, of course, money.

"The first baby will be set up for life," said the celebrity publicist Max Clifford. "The newspapers and magazines are already interested in it and if you manage it correctly the which will forecast the future family could get themselves a new house, a house filled with sponsors' free gifts and a great BBC and ITV will be looking for deal of money over a long pe-expectant couples and single riod of time. You could sell the family's story and photographs to magazines and newspapers and have follow-up documen-"A lot of people are looking taries every year. In the first

Mirror, agrees that the first baby's story will be attractive to newspapers: "It will be massive. It's like the best name drop in history to be able to say I was the first person born this millemium'. I honestly think the family could make £1m easily." But as usual the combination

of money and media is not trouble-free. "The first story will be the row over which baby is actually the first,"Mr Morgan said. "If you can find a surgeon to give you an elective Caesarean on the stroke of midnight it could all get herribly distasteful and we'll all run stories on the competing claims



Jack Hanford Playing Harry the precocious shopper in Safeway's TV advertisements made Jack (now six) Britain's

tricians said yesterday it would lems. Elective Caesareans are

ister methods."

The Royal College of Obste-

grounds as well as ethical prob-

be advising doctors against per- most successful when per- midnight and even some con-

sisters, now teenagers, who have had deals with a interview after the birth of Lourdes to OK!

highest paid child actor, with £30,000 for 60 ads. chemists, a car firm and a baby food manufacturer. magazine in November 1996 for a six-figure sum

would be staffing problems at

Drife of the college. "There would definitely discourage it."

forming Caesareans at night. formed during ordinary working cerns about the effect of the mil-boom, but no amount of sexy hours," said Professor James leannum bug on equipment. We music or money can guarante e a winner. Only 5 per cent of The media might be en- mothers give birth on their

BIG EARNERS IN NAPPIES The Walton sextuplets

Britain's best-known multiple births are the Walton Madonna set a celebrity standard selling her first

particular to the March of Lyars group and a few minutes without finding yourand the second of the second of such organisations. state to the second of the second 1.02 सर्वेद्रावाचा । १९५५ १५ - १५ - १५ - १५ क्र

OCIETY ife Cover

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ared of Why your TV remote is annoying

THE LAST time you visited the BY CHARLES ARTHUR dentist, did you feel comfortable Technology Editor in the chair? You should have - it is designed to be more like buying we have a tendency to a bed. But the last time you ate think that more must be better." in a fast-food outlet, you were self sliding off. That is no surprise: uncomfortable chairs mean a faster turnover for

Such subtle elements of design - the "ergonomics" of products - are the focus of a new exhibition that starts today, the beginning of Science Week, in the Science Museum in London.

Yet although the importance of ergonomics has become increasingly recognised in the past 50 years, many products are still marketed without posing essential questions about their final use, said Tom Stewart, managing director of System Concepts, a London-based ergonomics consultancy.

The classic one is the video recorder," he said. "The problem is that it is trying to squeeze too much functionality into too small a space on the remote control, so it ends up impossible to use.

"It's the same thing with washing machines that have 25 programmes - in fact, after three months you will find you only use three or four. But when

Although the term "ergonomics" was coined in 1857. when it appeared in a Polish newspaper it was mostly applied to people at work until the Second World War. Then designers became interested in aircraft cockpit design, after which their expertise was applied in a wide range of other fields.

It is now 50 years since the United Kingdom's Ergonomics Society, which is a co-sponsor of the new exhibition, was formed. Even so, Mr Stewart said, companies still ignore the lessons of ergonomics in product design.

The exhibition will feature interactive exhibits such as the British Standard Dog (whose measurements are used for designing objects which will affect dogs) and a buttock mea-surer, which lets visitors see how their nether ends compare to industry standards.

Mr Stewart was due to attend the opening but instead will be watching milkmen at work as part of a project which could redesign the traditional milkfloat. What lessons has he learnt from it so far? "First, it's different in different cities but they all work at night," he said, "and secondly, it's bloody cold."

BETTER BY DESIGN?

On average, two **baby buggles** are bought for every baby born in the United Kingdom – because the first one often does not suit the new parents' needs for storage, carriage and ease of use.

RSI, or Repetitive Strain Injury, became an Important topic among computer operators in the Eighties. But a similar condition was recognised in #702 among scribes copying manuscripts.

Flowerpots can be more hazardous than wheelbarrows. In 1996, 159 people were admitted to hospital following flowerpot-related accidents; but only 77 following accidents involving wheelbarrows, according to a government survey.

Most mobile phones have far more technological capability than they are used for, four out of five people only use them to dial numbers by hand. The term ergonomics was coined in 1857, when it appeared in a Pollsh newspaper. Nowadays It is also

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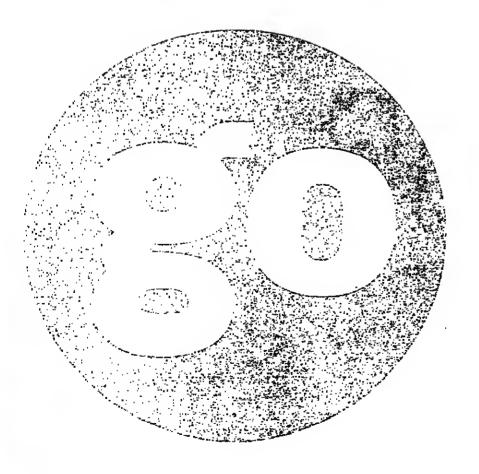
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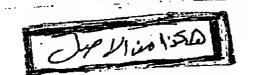


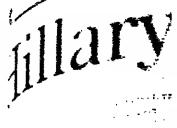
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Hillary walks out on Bill! Perhaps

WHO SAID it was all over? Pres- BY DAVID USBORNE ident Bill Clinton may have in New York survived his impeachment ordeal, and Monica Lewinsky One tabloid newspaper, one may have left for England - if television cable channel and only temporarily - but wait: one well-known Internet sleuth Hillary Clinton has decided enough is enough with all this Lady had finally read the riot infidelity and is ready to leave act to her husband. She could President ... perhaps.

\For a brief moment yesterday it seemed as if the big puz- Remember how last week the zle of the First Couple's marriage had been resolved.

were all reporting it: the First not stand being with him.

The details were compelling. Clintons returned from a skiing weekend in Utah a day early? That was because of a huge row that ended with Mrs Clinton storming out of their vacation accommodation demanding that her staff pack

And remember the excuse given for her deciding not to accompany her husband this week drick. An Arkansas businessto Central America - the back woman, she says she was raped strain that was exacerbated by 21 years ago in Arkansas by the skiing? Baloney. The truth now: Hillary Clinton had at last done what most wives would have

done acons ago: she had blown

"CHILLARY", exclaimed the front page of yesterday's New York Post newspaper. The bustup, it informed readers, was precipitated by the post-Monica claims from Juanita Broadthen attorney-general Clinton. The Post offered this quote,

room with him, let alone the same bed". It then attributed the quote to a "TV news report". Nobody yesterday could sensibly judge the veracity of the story. The White House rubbished it, but possibly it is true.

However, there were reasons why no other news organisation touched it, including the sourcing of the information. There was not any. The televidirect from the First Lady: "I sion news report said that those

explosive words from the lips of regularly as a commentator? Mrs Chinton had in fact been relayed by "sources close" to her.

The television station in estion, meanwhile, turned out to be Fox News Channel, the fledgling all-news-all-of-the-time endeavour launched by Rupert Murdoch, who happens to own the New York Post. The Internet sleuth is Matt Drudge, who also offers a version of the story on his now infamous web page. And where does Mr Drudge appear

The Fox News Channel

Behind this story is a furious hattle between the three 24hour news channels, Fox, MSNBC - owned by NBC Microsoft-and CNN. All have seen their ratings nosedive since the end of Monicagate and the impeachment trial Fox however is seen by some as best placed to regain its footing and for one reason - it is unabashedly conservative and anti-Clinton.

Just this week. Fox unveiled a \$4m (£2.5m) promotion. On Monday meanwhile, it received heartening news. For the first time, it had overtaken MSNBC in the daily viewership figures. If Fox sees the chance to stip past its rival in the battle for households, what better story than this to give it a turbo boost? And who can prove them wrong? "Hillary and Bill Deeply in Love Again". Now that would be a story. Deborah Orr, Review, page 5

Pope discusses morality with Iranian leader

MOHAMMAD KHATAMI, the By Frances Kennedy -tranian President, capped a ground-breaking visit to Europe yesterday with a private audi-

ence with the Pope. The two leaders, clad in opposing hlack and cream robes, met for half an hour in the pontiff's private studio. A Vatican statement described the talks as an "important and promising" contribution to dialogue be-

tween Christianity and Islam. President Khatami, a politically moderate Shia Muslim, told the Pope he hoped for the victory of monotheism, ethics and morality. He later met the Vatican Secretary of State, Angelo Sodano, who raised the issue of human rights in Iran. The Vatican said the two men also discussed the situation of Christians and Muslims in the Middle East as a whole. Mr Khatami is also leader of the 55-nation Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

During yesterday's unprecedented meeting about a hundred Iranian dissidents staged a noisy protest in a street near St Peter's, chanting "Khatami, terrorist". Despite security precautions, protesters managed to hurl an egg filled with red paint at the car in which President Khata-

mi was travelling. At the end of his visit to the Vatican, Mr Khatami presented his host with a silk wall-hang-

six videos of a popular Iranian televisinn series which described the tribulations of Christians persecuted by the Romans in what is now Iran.

The Pope, who, aides say, hardly ever watches television, gave Mr Khatami a bronze relief depicting the apostles Peter

Mr Khatami used his visit to appeal to Western nations to treat Iran as an international equal and to dispel its image as an intolerant country sympa-

thetic to anti-Western terrorists. He is also seeking support for Iran's lagging economy, and signed accords with Italy covering co-operation, foreign investment and the fight against the drugs trade. The President held talks with business leaders, including the head of Italy's energy giant, ENI, which recently signed a big oil deal

His broader goals struck an obvious chord with the Pope, who wants to promote greater collaboration between the great monotheistic taiths, Italy's Foreign Minister,

Lamberto Dini, who is seeking a strategic bridging role for Italy, said that the visit had been "an exceptionally important step in relations not only between Iran and Italy but Iran ing, a book of Islamic verse and and Europe".



The Pope with Iran's President, Mohammad Khatami, in Rome yesterday

Nato welcomes its former foes

THE LATEST chapter in the BY MARY DEJEVSKY undoing of the Cold War is to be in Independence, Miss enacted today in Independence Missouri, at the Harry Tru-

man memorial library. Foreign ministers of the three new members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organi-sation - the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland - will deposit documents ratifying their countries' acceptance of the treaty terms with the US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, It will mark their formal accession to the alliance and their protection under the mutual security clause they so coveted during the 40-year stand-off between East and

The key section of the treaty Article 5 - says "an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all".

The State Department says the article comes into force the moment the foreign ministers hand over their countries' instruments of ratification: even though full military integration will take years.

The documents themselves will ultimately be deposited in the National Archive in Wash-

The choice of Independence and the Truman Library as the venue for the formal accession of the first post-Cold War Nato members was the personal wish of Ms Albright. Tru-

in Independence, Missouri

man was president when the US presided over the creation of Nato and then masterminded it through a Congress re-luctant to endorse military

His speech at the signing of the original treaty – on 4 April 1949 - and that of his secretary of state, Dean Acheson, are lodged at the Independence h-

The State Department says the three new Nato states appreciate the historical significance of the venue and wanted to join Nato formally as soon as possible after ratifying the treaty and meeting the basic military requirements. Today's ceremony thus meets the interests and aspirations of all

In recent weeks, however, there have been rumblings of discontent from some of the new member states' Western backers. Their feeling is that a landmark of 20th century history, and one of President Bill Clinton's few foreign-policy triumphs, is being secreted away from public view. They complain that it is being deliberately eparated from next month's tivities in Washington, which will both mark the 50th anniversary of Nato and set its fu-

ture course. A senior State Department official denied that there was

any ulterior motive for sepa

rating the two occasions The Czechs, Poles and Hungarians, he said, wanted to be able to participate as full members in the planned discussions about Nato's future. which would be easier if they

ere already full members. He offered no reason why the ceremony could not have been held, for instance, a day before the main gathering, but still clearly within its framework: nor did he explain why it was not held in the vicinity of the White House, where the foreign ministers of the first 12 members signed the original treaty.

For the suspicious, there is a one-word explanation: Russia. For Russia, the expansion of Nato is a bitter pill.

.. But Russia, as a Nato "partner", will be one of 44 countries represented in Washington at next month's commemoration of Nato's 50th anniversary, an event hilled by US diplomats as "charting the way for a larger, more flexible alliance in the 21st century". While the intention may be

to demonstrate to Russia that its security is not threatened by a larger Nato, for some there is a paradox.

The inclusiveness of Nato's birthday party will have been made possible by today's ceremonial in Independence, which perpetuates the very division that Nato expansion was intended to banish.



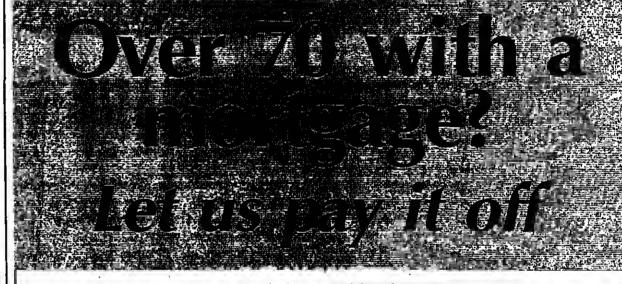
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Lafontaine goes into a wilderness

HE IS gone but he will be back. By IMRE KARACS Oskar Lafontaine, the physicist who had the confidence to lecture Europe's leading central bankers on banking, bowed out of the centre stage of German politics, convinced that he had been right all along.

After his four months as Finance Minister of Europe's higgest economy, his legacy is that of rising unemployment and failing output.

Other Socialists might stop for a moment to ponder why such things were happening, hut not "Oskar". He will go on, for the rest of his life, hlaming the gnomes of Frankfurt, international currency speculators, and "unfair" - meaning "too low" - taxes in other European Union countries.

We know, because Mr Lafontaine has been here before. Cassandra. He lost because he

1

in Berlin

the Social Democrats against a poorly regarded Helmut Kohl. He lost, but it took some doing, forfeiting as he did the biggest lead a party had ever enjoyed in German electoral history.

But Mr Lafontaine was right, as he is happy to tell anyone who will care to listen. He had criticised Mr Kohl's formula for bringing the freshly free East into the Federal Republic. The costs, he pointed out, would be enormous. "Nonsense" retorted Mr Kohl as he proceeded to promise "hiooming landscapes" in the East within a few

Mr Lafontaine was right, hut no one in those heady days wanted to listen to a chubby

rious moment since the end of Minister of Germany's least the Second World War. He was the man, it appeared, who was opposing re-unification.

That year had been a terrible one for Mr Lafontaine. While campaigning for those elections, he had been stabbed in the neck by a deranged woman. The ambulances took a long time coming, as the chancellor-candidate lay in a pool of his own blood. He very

nearly died.

Still, the plucky little man from Saarbrücken – lampooned for his looks and haughty demeanour as "Bonaparte of the Saar" - soldiered on, digging his political grave deeper every step of the way.

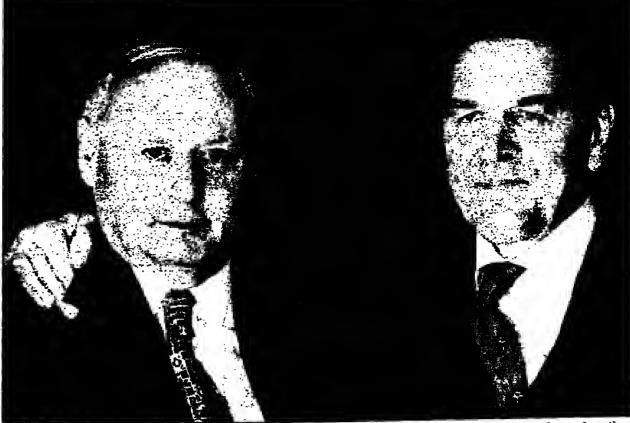
When the dust eventually settled oo those elections, Mr Lafontaine retreated to his In 1990 he was the champion of was seen to be carping about home region, seeking solace a certain Gerhard Schröder,

the German nation's most glo-from his role as the Prime significant Land. He fell into a depression - for a long time sipping more of his beloved Burgundy than he perhaps should have - and faded from the national picture. But then, slowly, he clawed his way back.

On the leftist firebrand circuit, there is no one quite like him. Even in those dark days, Mr Lafontaine could wrap a crowd around his fingers in an instant. But surely, the people said, he would not come back to national politics.

He did, pouring into a vacuum at the top of the party in 1995. In the interim, other Social Democrats had had a go against Mr Kohl and been burnt. Mr Lafontaine felt ready for the second round.

It did not happen, because of



Mr Lasontaine (left) with Mr Schröder last year. The Chancellor seemed stunned last night by the resignation

who many in the party felt did not have much to offer, except the prospect of victory.

weighed up the pros and cons: time last year, it was clear that substance, and his leftist Mr Lafontaine would be good for socialism, they thought, but

Oskar's sex appeal was limited to a narrow section of hardcore SPD supporters.

Their votes alone could not dislodge Mr Kohl

It must have been bitterly disappointing for Mr Lafontaine to hear this kind of advice from his closest friends. electoral pull, he stepped out of to hide. the ring.

fontaine refused to draw the correct conclusions.

He treated the party's elecvictory. Now was his chance to implement the kind of socialist vision be had been dreaming up nance ministry. over the past decade, aided by his wife Christa Müller, an arch-Keynesian economist.

Thus did Germany end up

deputy having too much of the wrong kind.

He did, however, render one useful service. As chairman of the party, he kept leftist critics at bay. With him gone, there is no one to deflect the wrath of the party, forever suspicious of Mr Schröder's "New Centre". Confronted with Mr Schröder's And Mr Schröder has nowhere

The Chancellor looked stun-The rest might have been ned last night as he presided history, except that Mr La- over the shortest press conference of his life. Today the party leadership is to choose Mr Lafontaine's successors, for it toral triumph as a personal is unlikely that any one person can fill those two vacancies - at the head of the party and the fi-

Mr Schröder will now try to grab the chairmanship of the party. But whether he succeeds or not, it will be a lot harder with a nightmare licket of a cen- from now on to keep the rank trist Chancellor lacking any and file in line.

Relief spreads across Europe at resignation

By Stephen Castle

RARELY HAS one politician made such an impact in Europe in such a short time, and rarely has one gained such notoriety in so many quarters.

Oskar Lafontaine, dubbed by one British tabloid as the "most dangerous man in Europe", sparked the biggest ideological debate over the continent's economic policy in years. But his achievements are questionable and his departure leaves the German government in disarray, only two weeks before a vital summit, called to resolve the seemingly intractable problems of Europe's financing. German prestige has taken a battering at a crucial time, halfway through both its EU and Group of Seven presidencies. It is also a key moment in the EU's history the Agenda 2000 discussions to

expand and reform the Union. In the corridors of Brussels. not many tears will be shed for an ontspoken figure who brought controversy to the usually drab discussions of the finance ministers' council, Ecofin. One diplomat summed up his contribution last night, saying simply: "He was a disaster".

Even as Europe was launching the new single currency, Mr Lafontaine paid little heed to the sensitivities of the exercise. Indeed tact and diplomacy were in rather short supply.

Despite his position as Germany's Finance Minister, he failed to turn up to the launch party of the Euro on New Year's Eve on the basis that he had aiready hooked an overseas holiday. When he was rumoured to be in the running for the presidency of the Euroquash the stories. But it was on policy that Mr Lafontaine's

British Chancellor, Gordon Lafontaine's desire to harmonise husiness taxes, and remove the effects of "social dumping" - where countries give preferential tax concessions to foreign companies.

When Mr Brown let it be known that he would veto Mr



The Sun's inflammatory front page

rhetoric, causing a feeding frenzy in the British press. The row even affected British opinion towards the Euro, leading British ministers to make urgent appeals' to Mr Lafontaine to desist from using the word "harmonisation".

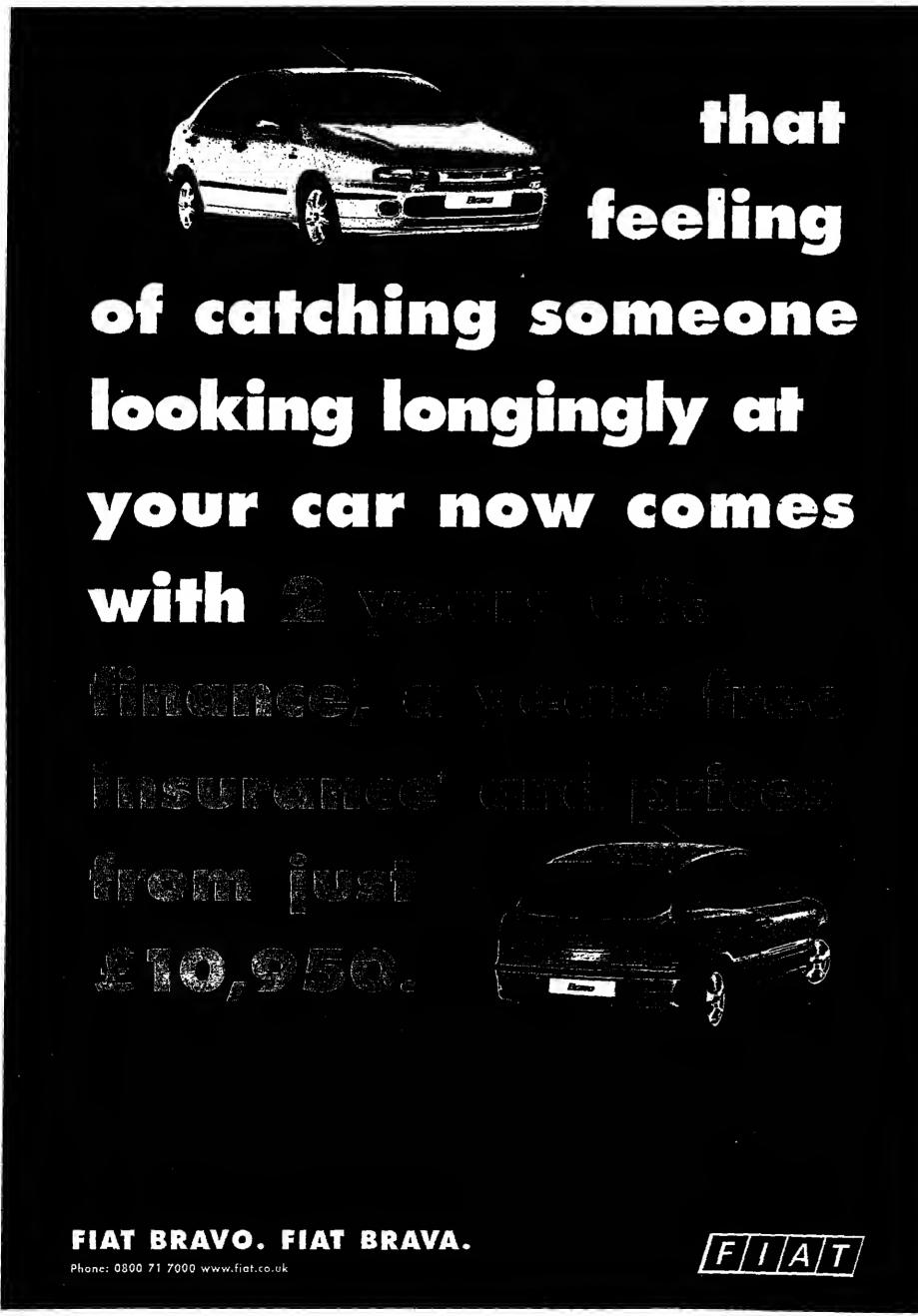
"I can't talk about this, Mr Lafontaine quipped, "I'll have to call it the 'H' word."

This was only part of an economic agenda which presented difficulties for the UK The changes of government in Germany and Italy last year, both with sharp moves to the ieft, produced a new push for a more Keynesian approach to jobs and growth

In any debate over economic policy, Mr Lafontaine would be on the side of those pushing for growth and job creation, rather than stressing the need for structural reform of Europe's economies. But his arguments were a challenge to Brussels too, because he was regularly at odds with the rules which the euro is meant to operate under. the Growth and Stability Pact.

In a typically robust mood pean Commission he failed to Mr Lafontaine recently took his argument to the European Parliament, making the case that presence was most widely felt. successful economies are not Adversaries included the always based on low borrowing or balanced budgets, as the EU Brown, who fell foul of Mr decreed. Look at Ronald Resgan's economic policy, he told MEPs: "he ran up enormous debts - of the type that would have made the guardians of the Growth and Stability Pact tear out their hair - combined with massive tax cuts.

"I don't think the European Lafontaine's plans, the Ger- Commission would have let man minister turned up the Reagan loose on the streets."



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Blair condemns 'historic' CAP reform as farmers celebrate

BY KATHERINE BUTLER in Brussels AND COLIN BROWN AND PAUL WAUGH

THE AGRICULTURE Minister Nick Brown faced humiliation last night after the deal be reached on the Common Agriculture Policy was rejected by Tony Blair as "not good enough".

The overhaul of the 37-yearold system for supporting Europe's farmers will lead to cuts in subsidies on beef, dairy and cereals production, with dairy quotas phased out by 2006. Mr Brown, who has to make

a statement on the deal to MPs today in the Commons, said after the all-night negotiations that it would save the average British family up to £70 a year. "The deal struck is good for taxpayers, farmers, consumers and the countryside," he said. But even before the Agriculture Minister had returned to Britain, the deal was criticised by Mr Blair who told the

Cabinet it did not go far enough, and Britain would continue pressing for deeper cuts in the cost of the CAP. Farmers across Europe celebrated that they had at least avoided more draconian cuts. The historic agreement to reform the European Union's 37year-old farm policy had begun

to unravel last night with the re-

alisation in London and other

capitals that the deal would save no money. Tony Blair appeared to pull the rug from under the deal by suggesting the cuts did not go far enough. The reforms still have to be agreed by heads of government at their Berlin summit on 25 March in the context of an overall deal on reforming the EU's finances. "This does represent progress hut it is not satisfactory in our

view," Mr Blair said. culture Minister, Jean Glavany, accused the German EU presidency of assuming the negotiations were over when they were not. The EU Agriculture long-term cut in the burden of Commissioner, Franz Fischler, supporting agriculture, and

WHERE	HE PARIVIERS ARE, WH	AT THEY GET NOW AND H	OW THAT WILL CHANGE
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	FINLAND	2,192	101,000	161,000	1,552	0.42	
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shops may fall slightly. CEREALS: The minimum guaran-

teed price to farmers will be cut by 20% in two steps starting in 2000. There may be some impact on the cost of the average shopping basket: bread, pasta. hiscuits and breakfast cereals as well as poultry and pork could be cheaper, but it depends on what part of their savings, if any, supermarkets pass on to customers. One ecstatic group of people will be Britain's millionaire farmers who feared a ceiling on compensation payouts. There will be no ceiling. MULK: The guaranteed price will be cut by 15% in three equal steps

starting from 2003/2004. Quotas would be increased by 1.5 percent in three equal steps from the 2003/2004, allowing more production. There could be some fall in the price of milk, cheese, and other dairy products.

WHAT THE FARMERS COST THE TAXPAYER: Spending will Increase in the short-term as farmers are compensated. The farm budget will total about 313 bn euros over 2000-2006. That represents 44.7 bn euros a year, compared to the current level of 40.4 billion euros.
Farm spending accounts for half the EU's total budger.

WHAT SHOPPERS WILL SAVE: The Government says a family of four will be £70 a year better off.

next few years.

sion into Eastern Europe in the

deal would increase spending

by 2006, not stabilise it, as the

Mr Brown was still in Brus-

sels when Mr Blair told minis-

Germans had intended.

By STEPHEN CASTLE in Brussels AND PAUL WAUGH in London BRITAIN'S European Union budget rebate came under re-

> Germany insisting that the subject must be debated at the forthcoming summit in Berlin. The Prime Minister, Tony Blair will have additional difficulties in defending the continuation of Britain's rebate. after EU agricultural ministers yesterday agreed on a deal which failed to make expected budgetary savings. The deal on farm spending will cost around £5bn more than the amount

newed pressure yesterday, with

eyes on

British

rebate

summit near Bonn. A paper from the German EU presideocy identifies the £2bn annual rebate as a central item of discussion at the meeting in two weeks' time. The paper argues that circumstances have changed since it was negotiated in 1984 by the then prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, at Fontainebleau.

specified at last month's special

The German document says the "key for financing the UK budget abatement", could be "adjusted", adding that new mechanisms should be put in place to take account of potential benefits to Britain of a decline in agriculture spending. It states that the definition of expenditure covered by the rebate should be "amended" to exempt the costs of the EU's enlargement to the east.

In the Government's strongest statement on the issue to date, Mr Blair's official Downing Street said the spokesman said there was no question of the rebate being conceded: "The abatement is con-negotiable, as all our partners know. We have made it clear that the abatement is justified, whatever the effects of

said although it was "less ambitious" than the Commission's initial proposals, it represented "the most radical reform since the CAP was first established in the early 1960s".

The key plank of any deal was intended to be a cut in the artificially guaranteed price of commodities by up to 30 per cent, But the ministers backed away from such a steep set of French displeasure also cuts, opting for a maximum grew during the day. The Agri- price cut of 20 per cent for beef and cereals and a 15-per-cent cut in milk, which will be delayed by three years.

The hoped-for effect is a

Dixons GAME TOYSTUS HMV -47-

mountains. By hringing EU policy into line with the demands of Europe's trading partners and the World Trade Organisation it will also allow big producers to compete in world markets, where prices

are much lower. But the big flaw is that it will cost taxpayers an extra £1bn a bundreds of thousands of year over the next seven years - on top of the £30hn a year the CAP already costs - because farmers will have to be compensated for the price cuts with generous direct-income support payments. And because the cuts and payment limits have been diluted in the

reform can be fully achieved. Critics were particularly dismayed at the failure to include any national co-financing of the CAP, as Germany bad sought, or any limits on annual cash amounts individual farmers can pocket. Britain's millionaire grain barons, paid pounds a year simply for owning vast tracts of cereals land, appeared to have escaped the threat of a £100,000 ceiling on the amount they cash in EU subsidy cheques each year,

begin to tail off. The Farm Minister, Nick final compromise it is not sure Brown, welcomed this develco-broker of the compromise. fewer milk lakes and beef the trade benefits of paying for opment. Tam pleased the cell-

after which subsidies would

ing is gone. We wanted to see changes in the method of paying farmers which did not disproportionately penalise the United Kingdom." But by last night Brussels officials said of the dairy sector, although Mr the means for discriminating Brown admitted disappointbetween income support for deserving small farmers and the rich élite who cream off most of the subsidies could milk price. still be added to the final pack-

age. In contrast to the noises of the need to find big budget dissent from London, in Brus- savings to finance EU expansels Britain was claiming victory for forcing Germany and France to accept some reform ment at a three-year delay in implementing the agreed 15per-cent cut in the guaranteed

The trigger for reform was

ters that the deal was unacceptable. enlargement."

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Congo orders diplomats out

THE SIX diplomats and officials BY KIM SENGUPTA from Britain and the US arrested in Congo over allegations of spying were due to fly out yesterday after President Laurent Kabila's government ordered their expulsion.

The six were expected to go to Zambia after the Congolese Interior Minister, Gaetan Kakudji, demanded that they leave oo the first scheduled flight out of the capital Kinshasa because they "had infiltrated a military base".

In the increasingly acrimosaid it was "considering its position" on whether any Coogolese diplomats face expulsion in retaliation. London has denied the men were engaged in espionage. It insists their role was purely to organise contingency plans for an evacuation of British nationals in Coogo which is rapidly sinking into an

The expulsion of the Britons

and the American also means a plans for the evacuation of the 150 or so British nationals in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The British ambassador, Douglas Scrafton, is expected to hold consultations with other foreign embassies in Kinshasa

Mr Kadulji claimed that the men "violated the Vienna Convention by introducing themselves illegally into the grounds of the Ndolo military base". nious row, the Foreign Office The Congolese have accused one of the Foreign Office men, Gregor Lusty, of being the "guide" of the enterprise. But as an accredited diplomat he was released; the others were kept under house arrest in Kinshasa.

The Foreign Office minister Tony Lloyd reiterated yesterspies. Their purpose was wbolinnocent." He has already

complain about the "totally unjustifiable action"

Mr Lusty was Third Secretary major disruption in contingency at the British embassy in Kinshasa. The American was on secondment from the US State Department Bureau of Intelligence and Research. Also arrested were two Ministry of Defence officials, a consular official and a bodyguard to Mr Scrafton. It has been claimed that the MoD officials were part of the Rapid Reaction Force, who would be responsible for evacuation but who could also be used for intelligence gathering.

As President Kabila's regime faces increasing pressure from rebel forces, there is increasing paranoia about alleged Western conspiracies, with accusations of foreign mercenaries helping the rebels. Anti-Western feelings are growing. Last week's "These people are oot massacre of eight Western tourists in Uganda was carried out by a Hutu militia loosely



Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary (left), and his French counterpart Hubert Vedrine being welcomed to the presidential palace in Abidjan by the Ivory Coast Ivorian President, Henri Konan Bédié, during the first Anglo-French visit of its kind to West Africa

New entente cordiale as Africa is unscrambled SETTING A century and a half of colonial rivalry behind them, in Abidjan Britain and France yesterday preserve French as a world lanlaunched what they billed as an historic new partnership

with Africa, aimed at bringing prosperity and peace to the

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and his French opposite number Hubert Vedrine met the presidents of Ivory Coast and Ghana, flagship countries of former French and British Africa respectively, before opening a conference of the British and French ambassadors to a dozen African coun-

London and Paris no longer sought to divide up the continent, Mr Vedrine told the meeting, jointly staged in the Ghanaian and Ivory Coast capitals, Accra and Abidjan. "There are no more exclusive spheres of influence, nor any forbidden

Mr Cook said that the two countries acting together could help Africa to boost trade, reduce its debt, and find solutions to its conflicts.

world are rendering obsolete to show countries such as history's barriers and narrow calculations of national advantage. Both countries have a younger generation of diplomats with no memory of colonial or early post-colonial

In Accra, Ghana's military college may exude the spit and polish of Sandhurst, but French companies thrive in the former British colony, and a favourite expatriate hangout in the Ghanaian capital is oeither a French brasserie nor an Engfish bar – but an Irish pub. If there is to be a European

foreign policy, as sketched out

last December when British

and French leaders first agreed

to end their rivalry in Africa, the notion would lose all credibility should the two countries continue to do battle with each other through their former And then there are the feelings of the Africans themselves. Why in a world of dissolving frontiers, should Ivory Coast be forced to use Paris as its gateway to the world? Or, as Flight

Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, the

Ghanaian President, said yes-

terday: "We detest the differ-

entiation between Anglophone and Francophone Africa." But differentiation will not vanish easily. Once independence became inevitable after the Second World War, Britain's approach was to prepare its African colonies for self-government and membership of the Commonwealth.

France, however, aimed for assimilation: the absorption of educated Africans into French tives in the Congo, Sierra society. "We left and they didn't," a senior British diplomat said. "We disengaged in the 1960s, but they've waited until the 1980s and 1990s."

France has 6,000 soldiers Africa, while 14 of its former colonies use the CFA franc, pegged to the French franc and thus to the euro. These are all are weapons in the war to die hard.

guage against the onslaught of

But old French certainties have been shaken by the catastrophes in Rwanda and the former Zaire (although both Francophone, they are former Belgian, not French, colonies).

In both cases France was on the wrong side, seen as a protector of the reviled President Mobutu in Zaire, and accused of abetting the Hutu genocide against the Tutsis in Rwanda in 1994. The latter was said to have been a devastating experience Mr Vedrine, who was President Mitterrand's top aide.

But if French policies are changing, they will none the less be operated by many of the people who ran the old policies. and they will be subject to the same jealousies.

France tried to use Britain's recent estrangement from Nigeria to boost its influence in what is potentially the dominant West African power. It also The realities of the modern tried - with greater success -



An 1885 cartoon of Bismarck carving up Africa

Ghana and Kenya what French cultural delights they had missed on account of their links with Britain. The Maison Française in Nairobi - a temple to Parisian chic if ever there were one - is just the latest and most visible evidence of this enterprise.

For its part, Britain has been unabashedly cock-a-hoop about pinching a £130m dock renovation contract in Abidjan from under the noses of French companies long accustomed to having everything their own way in Ivory Coast "Political allies maybe," sniffed a foreign diplomat in Nigeria, "but they'll be commercial competitors to the end."

Quick results, in short, are unlikely. The two-day gathering of ambassadors is to settle the procedural muts and bolts of cooperation - it is not about aid or joint peacekeeping initia-Leone and other crisis spots in Africa.

Indeed, to make it so might merely raise the spectre of neo-colonialism. As the Accra newspaper The Graphic asked permanently stationed in this week "Is this a strategy to re-colonise Ghana and Ivory Coast and strengthen colonial structures?" In modern Africa, old fears as well as old rivalries,

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Peking tightens security in Tibet

TWO MONKS have been de- By TERESA POOLE tained in Lhasa for daring to shout pro-independence slogans to mark the 40th anniversary of the Tibetan uprising which forced the Dalai Lama into exile.

A strict security regime remained in force throughout China's Himalayan region yesterday, as Peking dismissed pleas from the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader that dialogue was the only way to resolve the

Reports from Lhasa said that on Wednesday, the day of the anniversary, two monks in their late twenties shouted slogans in the Barkhor, the spiritual centre of the Tibetan capital, near the Jokhang temple. Police pounced, arresting one man immediately, and detaining the other as he attempted to escape. Riot police, vehicles and dogs appeared half an hour later

The London-based Free Tibet Campaign spoke to wit-nesses who said the Jokhang had been closed for "cleaning" and watchers had been posted in the area. Monks in the monasteries of Ganden, Drepung and Sera were prevented from leavmg, the group said.

Peking yesterday renewed its verbal assault on the Dalai Lama, with China's Foreign Ministry spokesman saying he continued "stubbornly" to push for independence and was "creating obstacles" to contact with Peking. "He has oever stopped activities aimed at splitting the

motherland," Zhu Bangzao said. The harsh propaganda contrasted sharply with a dignified

in Peking

and heartfelt speech by the Dalai Lama to mark the anniversary of the uprising against Chinese rule. He confirmed that informal channels of contact with Peking "through private persons and semi-officials" had suddenly closed last year.

"Late last autumn, without any obvious reason, there was a noticeable hardening of the Chi-nese position on dialogue and their attitude towards me. This abrupt change was accompanied by a new round of intensified repression in Tibet," he said.

Before China turned its back on dialogue, Peking seemed ready to moderate its position on Tibet. President Jiang Zemin spoke openly of dia-logue during President Bill Clinton's state visit last June. The Dalai Lama's aides even mooted the idea of a spiritual pilgrimage to China.

Yesterday, the Dalai Lama again stated that he was seeking only "genuine autonomy". "I do not seek independence for Tibet ... A just and fair solution to the issue of Tibet will enable me to give full assurance that I will use my moral authority to persuade the Tibetans not to seek separation," he said. But he added that "the Chinese leadership is sometimes hindered by its own suspicions".

It is widely believed that China now has oo real interest in opening a dialogue with the Dalai Lama, and its current policy is to contain Tibet until the exiled 67-year-old leader dies.



An Axi tribe elder carrying her grandchild in You Zha Di village, in the Yunnan province of China, at the Lunar New Year festivities. The Axi are part of the Yi, one of the minority groups who make up 6 per cent of China's L2 billion population

Pandas get VIP suites in Hong Kong

TWO GIANT pandas, An An and BY STEPHEN VINES Jia Jia, touched down in Hong in Hong Kong Kong from mainland China yes terday to be be whisked off to unprecedented luxury at what is described as the Ocean Park Panda Hotel. The complex is a specially built, £6.5m panda "habitat" with separate "his" and "her" bedrooms, hish vegetation, electronic temperature control and - believe it or not - a sliding roof for when the weather becomes temperate.

In typical Chinese style, the gift of the pandas to Hong Kong has strong political overtones. They were offered by Peking as part of the celebratory package to mark the end of British colonial rule.

This endangered species, which survives only in China,

has long been used by the government in Peking to cement political relations and to reward so-called "old friends".

In the past, panda gifts have ciding with the political demise of their recipients. Edward Heath got his just before losing a general election. Richard Nixon's pandas arrived alongside the Watergate scandal.

Hong Kong's head of government, Time Chee-hwa, will be hoping that the panda curse does not blight his administration - although An An and Jia Jia are arriving just as Hong Kong lumbers into one of its deepest recessions.

The pandas are expected to do their bit for species survival while in Hong Kong by mating. Whether the five-star accommodation will induce these notoriously difficult creatures to breed remains to be seen.

Garry Marvin, the author of had an uncanny knack of coin- a book called Zoo Culture, described the lavish panda bome as "the architecture of guilt". He told a Hong Kong newspaper that although a lot of money had been spent, the environment is not really suitable for wild animals and has been designed to reflect human attitudes towards animals, rather than anything else.

An An and Jia Jia will be kept under wraps on arrival and will only go on public display in two mooths' time.



China to let public watch trials

By TERESA POOLE

CHINA'S COURTS are to make more trials open to the public to give mainland justice greater transparency. The Supreme Court said trials should be publicised in advance and verdicts issued in closed courtrooms would be subject to retrial.

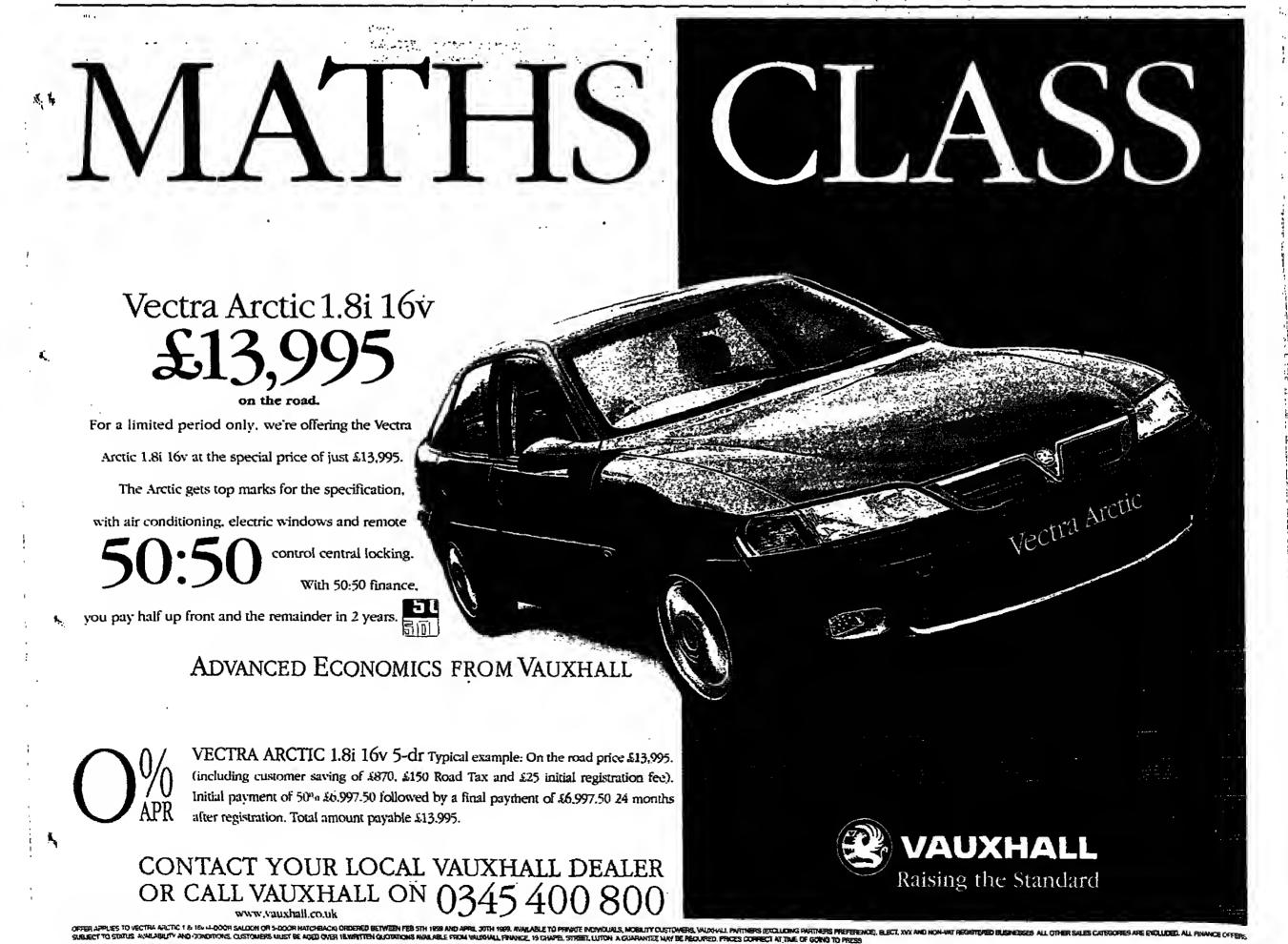
Human rights organisations will be closely monitoring how this order is implemented. Trials deemed to involve issues of "national security" will not be open, and it is unlikely that hearings involving dissidents will allow uninvited guests. Uoder existing arrangements, China often claims a trial has been held "in public", when the reality is that the room is peopled only by carefully selected

A carefully controlled opening of the courts started last year in Peking, when the city's Number Ooe Intermediate People's Court opened to the public and also broadcast some non-sensitive cases live on television. Other courts around the country followed suit.

Under the new order, publicised in yesterday's Chinese newspapers, the lowest of the three tiers of courts must always be open unless the case involves state secrets, iuvenile delinquency, personal privacy,

divorce or commercial secrets. The public's right to know remains curtailed, however. Even in open trials, Chinese journalists will oeed permissioo to attend. The Independent was permitted to watch a trial last year, but access by foreigners is still hard to arrange.

In the criminal trials of dissidents last year, the new right to a lawyer and adequate notice of the trial date proved worth-less. One dissident's lawyer was detained, and another dissident was given just three AP | days' notice of his appearance.



Hidden miracle of Louis XV's millennium clock

AT MIDNIGHT French time on 31 December of this year, while most of Paris is going crazy on the Champs-Elysees, a clockwork miracle will occur unseen at the Château de Versailles.

A clock huilt 253 years ago, to show days, months and years as well as hours and minutes. will tick-tock its way without fuss or fanfare into the new millennium. The first digit on the year-counter, which has been stuck on "one" for the past two-and-a-half centuries. will move smoothly and silently on to "two". The other digits will turn to zero and the clock sometimes called the 10,000year clock - will have eotered

What price new technology? Other year-counting clocks globe. None is believed to be as old as the Horloge Passemont in the Château de Versailles and none, certainly, has mutely witnessed as many of the decisive events of the past quarter-millennium

Louis XV in 1749, three years

EUROPEAN TIMES

VERSAILLES

after it was constructed. It of infectious enthusiasm for his has stood ever since in the trade. His life is ruled by the "clock room" at Versailles, a few yards from the rooms occupied by Louis XVI and Marie-Antoinette at the time of the Revolution; and only one room away from the Hall of Mirrors where the peace treaty to end the First World War was signed in 1919.

The clock's present custodian is the chief clock-keeper of the château, Daniel Mornas, 61, who visits his charge once a month to wind it. Wheo he a new millennium, without reads of all the anxiety about the "hugs". expensive readjust-ments and precisely oo time. says he smiles but "it also makes me angry".

"It is absurd, inadmissible exist in various parts of the that all these expensive, clever, modern machines should have been made without bearing the millennium in mind. Was it just stupidity or for commercial reasons?"

Mr Mornas, owner of a clock workshop in the town, is a The clock was bought by precise, passionate, sombre-

clock: or by more than 200 clocks, most of which need to he rewound every fortnight. "Whatever else happens in my life." he said. "I know that I can oever go oo holiday for more than two weeks."

The Passemont clock, named after its creator, a celebrated French clock-maker. loses ooe minute a month. "I could try to adjust the mechanism hut, in my view, for a clock that old, to lose a minute a month is not so bad. So I just move it forward a minute each month and otherwise leave it alone," Mr Mornas said. We visited the clock outside

oormal visiting times. The château, the largest and many believe the most beautiful mansion in the world, was eerily and movingly empty. The light was just fading on the huge, geo-metrical gardens beyond the Hall of Mirrors. The clock, in an ornate brass case, about six feet seeming man, giveo to bursts tall on a plinth of marble, stood

awaiting its moment of tech-nological triumph in a room but not much more than that." which most visitors do not see.

The mechanism, including more than a thousand interconnecting brass and steel wheels. was constructed to built a clock capable of surtake account of the differing viving for 750 years? numbers of days in each month and adjusted, in advance, for tality of the age," Mr Mornas leap years. There is one large said. You see it also in the brass wheel in the clock, which buildings of the time, like this takes exactly four years to

perform a full revolution. When it does so, it trips another wheel which provides February with its 29th day. In all other years, the clock moves automatically from the 28th of the mooth to the 1st of March. The clock also records, accurately, the phases of the

moon, and beautifully but less accurately, according to the slightly wayward calculations of Copernicus, the movements of the planets. The 10,000-year clock is so-called because it is capable of counting the years up to 9999. Mr Mornas does not like that name: he doubts that the clock will see one more millennium, oever mind another 8,000 years. "Given oormal wear," he said, "I expect that

Seven centuries is not bad.

Why should Monsieur Passemont - his first name has not come down to posterity-have

"Because that was the mencháteau. Everything was made to last indefinitely. In our own time, when we huild a school or a hospital, we expect to tear it down after 20 years and start again. Everything is for the moment ... In those days, there was a sense of permanence, a sense of eternity. It's something that

No special event is planned to mark the moment when the clock ticks into 2000. Unless one of the château caretakers bothers to witness the momeot, a technological feat, pre-programmed two-and-ahalf centuries ago but seemingly beyond our greatest modern brains, will occur in the dark - and unseen.

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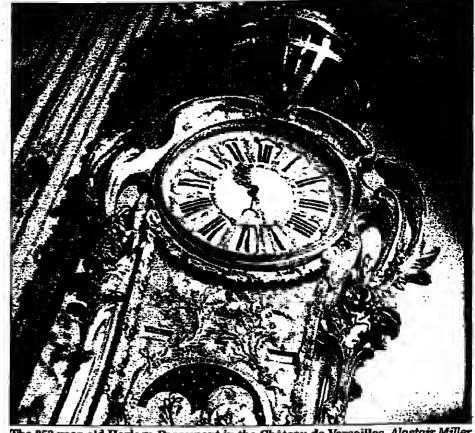
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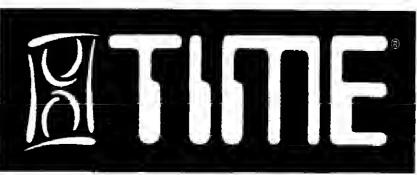
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Serbs test Western resolve on Kosovo

THE WEST'S Balkan strategy was in disarray yesterday after Serbia rejected a planned peace deal for the war-stricken province of Kosovo.

After eight hours of talks with the United States envoy Richard Holbrooke in Belgrade, President Slobodan Milosevic said Yugoslavia would never tolerate a foreign military force entering Kosovo to supervise a peace settlement.

"Attempts to condition a political agreement on our country's acceptance of foreign troops are unacceptable," read the statement from Mr Milosevic's office after Mr Holbrooke left the Serbian capital

Belgrade's rejection of foreign troops, a vital element of the package, casts doubt on whether the second round of talks on Kosovo will even take place as planned on 15 March at Rambouillet, in France. Some Kosovo Albanian leaders suggested yesterday that they

may boycott the whole event. The shambles exposes Nato to the risk of public humiliation if the alliance's repeated threats to use force against Serbia are revealed to be hollow.

While Nato officials in Brussels were yesterday talking up the threat to use force to engineer a peace deal in Kosovo, the very fact that such threats have been around for six months has diminished their value. "It would take several days

of crisis, with the Serbs being obdurate at the table and brutal on the ground, to wind allied public opinion up into bombing mode," one Nato diplomat

Mr Holbrooke alluded to the new oote of realism before he BY MARCUS TANNER

left Serbia for New York. There was no point "rattling rockets and making threatening gestures", he said.

Nor can the West draw much comfort from vesterday's visit to Belgrade by Russia's Foreign Minister, Igor Ivanov. Although publicly committed

to supporting a peace deal for Kosovo, Russia's strong ties to its old Serbian ally mean it is. unlikely to hring much - or indeed any - pressure to bear on Mr Milosevic.

Grim confirmation of Kosovo's deteriorating situation came with reports of new buildups by the Yugoslav army near the western city of Prizren and a "very grim situation" on Kosovo's border with Macedonia.

Red Cross officials in the Kosovo capital of Pristina described as "pitiful" the plight of Albanian villagers driven from their homes by Serb forces. At least four villages were reported to be in flames after being shelled by the Yugoslav army.

While much of the blame for Kosovo's dismal prospects will be laid at Serbia's door. some of the recrimination will also be aimed at the Kosovar leadership.

Instead of wrongfooting Belgrade by agreeing to the peace plan, leaders of the Kosovo Liberation Army have infuriated their Western sympathisers with endless procrastination.

Even a strong supporter such as the former US senator Bob Dole said, in a radio interview on Wednesday, that he was "frankly disgusted with the attitude of the Kosovars".

IN BRIEF

Holocaust victims to get £36m

NORWAY'S PARLIAMENT has approved compensation worth \$57.7m (£36m) for the nation's Jewish Holocaust victims. Parliament adopted a package that will compensate Jewish families for part of the property that was plundered by the Nazis and that will fund projects for the Jewish community.

Duvalier misses court appearance

JEAN-CLAUDE DUVALIER, the former Haitian dictator, failed to appear at a court hearing yesterday on the status of his residency in France, sending a letter saying he did not want to feed growing controversy about himself. A Haitian-born photographer has started a committee in Paris to hring Duvalier to trial for crimes against humanity.

£15m to feed displaced Ethiopians

THE UNITED NATIONS World Food Programme approved a \$24.3m (£15m) operation to feed up to 272,000 Ethiopians displaced by recent fighting along the border with Eritrea. The food relief agency estimates that the conflict has forced nearly 350,000 Ethiopians to flee their homes.

Fossil offers clue on evolution

SOUTH AFRICAN researchers unveiled a 260 million-year-old fossil they say bolsters the theory that South Africa was the place where scaly, cold-blooded reptiles evolved into the ancestors of furry, warm-blooded mammals. The fossil came. from a pre-dinosaur species of sheep-sized animal.



E INDEPENDENT

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the new mondeo zetec £15,380 on the road.

(Fired)

BUSINESS

BRIEFING

BCCI man's appeal turned down

THE COURT of Appeal yesterday rejected the appeal by 8 key figure in the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCD scandal against his 14 year prison sentence. Abbas Gokal was sentenced and ordered to pay costs of £4.3m last April for his role as chairman of Gulf Group, a shipping company which was the the biggest single horrower from BCCI. He had conspired with senior BCCI officials to swindle the bank of \$1.2bn, and was found guilty of false accounting and conspiracy to defraud. In giving his ruling, Lord Justice Rose said Gokal was at the heart of a highly sophisticated fraud, the largest experienced in the UK and with international consequences of great gravity.

United Biscuits profits rise



UNITED BISCUITS, the McVitie's and Hula Hoops snacks group, has started to sbrug off a prolonged period 4 per cent rise in underlying full-year profits to £110m. The company, which this week lost its chief executive Eric Nicoli (pictured) to EMI, saw UK profits at McVitie's edge up by 2 per cent with strong performances from its Go

Ahead. Hob Nob and Penguin brands. Separately it emerged yesterday that Keebler, the US snacks business UB sold two years go after a disastrous performance, is now enjoying soaring profits and market share.

BoS launches life insurer

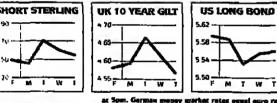
BANK OF SCOTLAND yesterday entered the long-term savings business in earnest by launching its own life insurance company. The bank is linking up with Edinburgh Fund Managers and Legal & General to handle investment management, and five other companies. Gavin Masterton, managing director, said the new company, to be called Bank of Scotland Investors Club, would be able to "leapfrog" other companies by developing new-generation

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FTSE 250	\$493.30	84.30	1.56	5970.90	4247,60	311
FTSE 350	3008.90	45.00	1,52	2978.70	2210,40	2.65
FTSE All Share	2908.34	42,53	1.48	2688.52	2143.53	2.69
FTSE SmallCap	2353,10	19.10	0.82	2793.80	1834,40	3.47
FTSE Fledging	1275.70	\$.00	0.39	1517.10	1046.20	4.29
FTSE AIM	844,30	2.60	0.31	1146,90	761,30	1.10
FTSE Eurotop 100	2914.03	60.27	2.11	3079.27	2018.15	2.05
FTSE Eurotop 30	1259.60	21,91	1.77	1332.07	880.63	1,95
Dow Jones	9877,19	107.12	1,10	9798.93	7400,30	1.60
Nikkej	15502,14	22,14	0,14	17128.97	12787,90	0.92
Hang Seng	10662.81	-86.20	-0.80	11926,16	6544.79	3.22
Das	4754,41	33.00	0,70	6217.83	3833.71	1,83
5&P 500	1298.08	11.32	0.88	1293,74	923,32	1.24
Masdaq	2428.81	22,15	0.92	2533,44	1357.09	0.28
Toronta 300	6599,20	26,28	0.40	7837.70	5320,90	1,60
Brazil Bovespa	10077.B8	286.07	2.93	12339,14	4575.69	6,18
Belgium Bel 20	3302.18	24.64	0.75	3713.21	2696.26	2,13
Amsterdam Exch	527.58	6.92	1,33	600.65	366,58	1.95
France CAC 40	4184,38	22.07	0.53	4404.94	2881.21	1,87
Milan MIB30	37111.00	241.00	0.65	39170.00	24175.00	1,10
Madrid Roex 35	10191.60	251.50	2,53	10989.80	6869.90	1,71
Irish Overall	5425.48	57.09	1.06	5581,70	3732.57	1.50
S Korea Comp	582.00	12.73	2.24	651,95	277.37	0.26

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F. 1		+0 34c		Euro		-18.08c	
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www.bioomberg.com/uk	SOURCE: BLOOMBE		
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Mexican (nuevo peso)

Source: Thomas Cool

Austrolia (\$)

Malaysia (ringgits)

Malta (lira)

Austria (schillings)	19.81	Netherlands (guilders)	3.1749
Seigium (francs)	58.25	New Zealand (S)	_2.907
Canada (\$)	2.4116	Norway (kroner)	12.3
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8331	Portugal (escudos)	287.6
Denmark (kroner)	10.79	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5.923
Finland (markka)	8.5993	Singapore (\$)	2.6719
France (francs)	9.46\$1	South Africa (rands)	9.596
Germany (marks)	2.8304	Spain (pesetas)	239.34
Greece (drachma)	463.62	Sweden (kronor)	12.8
Hong Kong (S)	12.21	Switzerland (francs)	2.3122
ireland (punts)	1.1342	Thailand (bahts)	55.4
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Electra aims to thwart 3i with share buyback

ELECTRA INVESTMENT Trust BY ANDREW VERITY vesterday mounted its defence against a £1.2bn unsolicited bid by 3i group when it offered to buy back shares at a 40 per cent pre-

mium to their pre-bid price. Electra, which received the bid of 705p a share in January, is proposing a tender offer at 786p for 40 per cent of its share capital, costing the trust £544m. The geared-up trust will then be wound up within five years.

Michael Stoddart, the Electra chairman who founded the trust 26 years ago, said further buybacks were planned: "We would hope the majority, if not all, the money would be back in shareholders' hands within the five years," he said.

Electra will also spend £30m buying out Robert Fleming, the investment bank, from its 50 per

the trust's investment man-Fleming's stake - sold less than five years ago - was one of the

main sticking points of the 3i bid. The defence was welcomed by the market, which marked the shares up 6 per cent to 729.5p.

in spite of the absence of muchrumoured third-party bidders. But Electra also came under

value of its unquoted assets to the limit. The trust's biggest unuation meant the stocks would in realising over £1.9km of assets. agers. The future of Robert the limit. The trust's biggest unquoted stock, PHS, was valued at £48m at the end of September. According to Electra's valuation, the stock was worth £80m by the end of February. Another hold-

ing, in a company called ICIL, more than trebled in value. Mr Stoddart said the re-valuation of the trust's assets was conservative given the 20 per

have to grow earnings by 30 per

cent a year. Analysts also said sharetire holding would get less than the 3i bid - because the rump inworth less. They also questioned an incentive scheme, giving se-

cent stake in Electra Fleming, who said it had stretched the cent rise in the FTAH Share nior executives of Electra Flem-

Roly Crawford, head of investment trusts at ABN Amro. said the managers would need holders wanting to sell their enonly 6 per cent a year to get the rewards: "The whole issue is a vestment trust, geared up to finance the buyback, would be getting quite a good fee anyway, you would have thought they would have a tougher task."

Michael McLintock (left), group chief executive of M&G, and Sir Peter Davis, group chief executive of the Prudential, announcing the deal yesterday

Pru buys M&G for agreed £1.9bn

CHARITY COLLECTS

THE ESMEE Fairbairn Chari- in the war. Backing for the trust

after the wife of M&G's founder & General Companies. By 1959

Panel may force BICC bid disclosure

biggest life insurer, is to buy M&G, the country's largest unit trust group, in a £1.9bn agreed

term savings products, is making a cash offer of £25 a share, a premium of 40 per cent to Wednesday's closing share price.

M&G, which has a customer base of 730,000 and some £18.5bn funds under management, will operate as an autonomous unit within the Pru, giving the group a unit trust business to stand alongside its growing stable of retail financial brands including Scottish Amicable and Egg.

Sir Peter Davis, the Pru chief executive, said: "The combination of the Prudential and M&G creates leading market positions in the UK retail and investment product sectors."

Analysts said that the Pru needed to expand its unit trust business dramatically in response to the growing shift out of traditional life insurance and savings, a process that is likely to accelerate as a result of the Government's attempts to en-

force Wassall, the acquisitive

mini-conglomerate, to reveal

whether it is planning a takeover

of BICC. the troubled cables

and engineering group, within

the next few weeks, writes

Insiders believe that the reg-ulatory body could ask Wassall,

Francesco Guerrera.

THE PRUDENTIAL, Britain's BY ANDREW GARFIELD biggest life insurer, is to buy Financial Editor

courage more people to save. M&G will take on the running Rod Kent, the chairman of The Pru, which said the deal of the Pru's existing unit trusts' M&G, said the group had been over M&G's institutional client base. There were also hints that term successor to Sir Peter, who is 58 this year.

Trust, has agreed to sell its engood cultural fit," Mr Kent said. tire 33.3 per cent, conditional on

table Trust, a major donor to

the arts and education, is

with 33.3 per cent. It is named

lan Fairbairn, who launched

Britain's first unit trust, the

First British Fixed Trust, in

1931. Mrs Fairbairn was killed

tentions in an official stockmar-

ment but Wassall fuelled ru-

mours of a bid yesterday when

it said it could issue a high-yield

bond of up to £100m to finance

last year's acquisition of Thorn

Lighting Group. The chief ex-

The Panel declined to com-

ket announcement

THE TAKEOVER Panel could cent in BICC, to declare its in-

which has a stake of over 9 per ecutive Christopher Miller said

M&G's largest shareholder

the deal receiving the necessary regulatory approval, as have return for having an exclusive ther 0.44 per cent.

by a number of potential buyers including the Halifax, Britain's Michael McLintock, M&G'a largest mortgage bank, but reyouthful chief executive, is being cently went back to the Pru. The lined up as a potential long- Pru had originally approached M&G a year ago after deciding that it was the partner that M&G's largest shareholder, made the most sense. "This is the Esmee Fairbairn Charitable" a good strategic fit but also a

Analysts said the Pru had

came from an engineering firm

White Drummond & Company,

which had its own securities

business known as Municipal

the firm had outgrown its orig-

inal parent and was floated on

the stock exchange. The name

was shortened to M&G in 1989.

the deal would free up resources

Wassall, known as a shrewd

buyer of underperforming small

firms, has been mounting since

last month when the company

said its investment might lead to

The prospect of a takeover

Speculation of a bid by

for acquisitions.

an offer for BICC.

M&G's directors who own a fur- run at M&G. But, having done so, it was now unlikely to see it-Rod Kent, the chairman of self trumped by a higher bid. Richard Burden at Goldman

> bid. But banks and insurance companies are not going cheap. This deal is strategically right." The Pru is paying the equivalent of 10 per cent of assets under management. That com-

> pares with the 3 per cent paid by Merrill Lynch to buy Mercury Asset Management last year. Jonathan Bloomer, the Pru's finance director; said: "The price is full but fair. It reflects firstly the fact that the deal has a degree of certainty, and second the

scarcity value of M&G, which

until yesterday was the only in-

dependently quoted asset manager in the UK of any real size. "After having a couple of rough years, the changes Michael McLintock has made

are starting to pay off." He expects cost savings of £10m a year, mainly as a result of eliminating the costs associated with M&G's plc status and from pooling resources

which had been savaged by a

slump in the cables market. In

the three weeks since Wassall's

statement the shares rose 34 per

cent to 89.5p before falling back

to yesterday's 80.5p as the spec-

ulation faded. The volatility is be-

lieved to have triggered fears of

a "false market" in the stock,

with investors encouraged to buy

Lafontaine resignation sends euro soaring

THE EURO soared yesterday af- BY DIANE COYLE ternoon after the surprise resignation of Oskar Lafontaine, the controversial German fi- stormed to new record highs, nance minister, overshadowing record share price gains in London and New York.

Within minutes of the announcement, the euro, which had earlier languished near its record lows, gained more than ment bonds also made sharp close.

Analysts said the euro, which has performed poorly against other leading currencies since its launch at the beginning of the year, would benefit from an end to the political uncertainty caused by tensions within the German government.

There was also relief at an Mr Lafontaine and the European Central Bank over his calls for interest rates to be cut. Alison Cottrell, chief econo-

mist at PaineWebber, said. "The markets love it because Red Oskar has gone." She said the removal of po-

litical pressure on the European Central Bank and the strengthening of the euro made tinent more likely.

Gwyn Hacche, an analyst at HSBC James Capel, said: "We can hope the next finance minister will keep his mouth shut, and will he rather more business-friendly."

AND LEA PATERSON

with analysts surprised yet again by the US economy's capacity for non-inflationary

The bullish sentiment on Wall Street spilled over to stocks in London, where the 2 cents against the dollar to FTSE 100 set both a new intra-\$1.10 while German govern- day record and a new record

More than 1.2 billion shares changed hands, and by the end of the day the FTSE was up 94.2 points at 6,335.7, off its earlier peak of 6,360.3.

The more broadly-based FTSE All Share Index also benefited from the Dow's surge, setting a new record close of 2,908.34.

Stronger-than-expected reend to the public row between tail sales data helped the Dow. Jones to break through the 9,900 barrier for the first time.

Official estimates of retail sales growth in January were sharply revised upwards, from 0.2 to 1 per cent. Initial growth rates for February were also ro-

Ken Wattret at Paribas said: "We are now seemingly back to the Goldilocks scenario of low the Fed just sitting on its hands."

The recent jump in oil prices gave shares in London and New York a helping hand. Oil producers, including Shell and BP all recorded sizeable gains Before the announcement, on hopes that Opec would soon leading UK and US shares agree sizeable production cuts.

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The state of the s

Canary Wharf valued at £2bn

CANARY WHARF, the giant office By JOHN WILLCOCK development in London's docklands, has set the price range of in 1995. His 11 per cent stake in its flotation at 280-350p, valuing the company at £1.9bn to £2.3bn and making it Europe's third largest property company.
The group published its

prospectus yesterday, saying that it is placing 167m shares, representing some 25 per cent of the enlarged share capital. The placing will be to insti-

tutions only, raising £470m to £585m. Peter Anderson, head of finance at Canary Wharf, said there would be no retail offer via private client stockbrokers or independent financial advisers.

Paul Reichmann's family founded the development in the 1980s only to lose control of it to the banks in the subsequent property crash. The secretive Canadian developer came back sparked a rise in BICC shares. BICC shares in the hope of a bid. st the head of an investor group

Canary Wharfwill increase to 15 per cent if he chooses to exercise warrants granted to him in the float - and if the shares top the strike price of 450p. George Iacobescu, Canary

Wharf's chairman, said that none of the existing investors want to sell following the float, and that they have all agreed to a six month "lock-in" period. Altogether 17 senior execu-

tives of the group will be granted options in the float equive to just over 1.5 per cent of the share capital exercisable as long as the shares rise by 15 per cent a year for three years.

These executives already have a roughly equal number of options granted previously, giving them a stake in the float worth a possible £70m.

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

BLUE CHIPS roared to a record high. Footsie closed 94.2 points up at 6.335.7; at one time it was 118 to the good. Trading was again heavy with share turnover put at 1.3 hillion. The excitement spread to supporting shares, although their indices remain below their peaks.

The £1.9bn Prudential takeover hid for the M&G unit trust group and a strong oil sector on hopes that Opec will cut production were the prime reasons for the advance. A rampant New York display was another important influence. Derek Pain, page 25 NEW YORK

THE DOW JONES broke through the 9,900 barrier for the first time | their day's gains as profit-taking set yesterday, following the release of in during late Tokyo trade. The stronger-than-expected retail sales | Nikkei 225 average closed 22.14

Oil stocks gained sharply for the second successive day amid optimism about sharp Opec production cuts. Chevron, the oil group, was among the Dow's biggest gainers. Shares in rival Exxon also rose sharply. Coca-Cola, which has lost 10

per cent of its value over the last

positive broker recommendation.

year, rose on the back of a

● TOKYO

JAPANESE SHARES gave up most of

points higher at 15,502.14, having hit a high of 15,840.23 earlier in the day. Underlying sentiment was firm amid bopes that the economy could at last be on the road to recovery. Bank shares jumped in heavy

volume, with traders hullish following recent confirmation of major restructuring plans. One said: "I can't say that the sector has turned the corner yet, but it is getting better."

PARIS

BNP'S BID for Société Générale and Paribas belped push volume on the Paris bourse to its secondhighest level in history. Shares worth 4.1 billion euros changed hands, just short of the all-time record volume of 4.49 billion set in June last year.

The CAC-40 eventually closed at 4184.38, up 22 points, having broken through 4,200 earlier in the session. About 4.3 per cent of SocGen's share capital changed hands, pushing the share price up almost 14 per cent. Paribas and BNP also ended sharply higher.

FRANKFURT

GERMAN STOCKS ended more than 1 per cent higher, spurred on by strong gains in the banking sector. Dresdner Bank surged almost 5 per cent and HypoVereinsbank 8.5 per cent on the back of positive sentiment generated by the BNP bid for rival French banks Paribas and SocGen. This helped the Xetra Dax index close up 55.32 points at 4,785.37.

News of the resignation of Oskar Lafontaine, the German finance minister, did not break until after the stock market had

A fancy price for a household name

THERE MIGHT already have been an American version of the same thing, but as far as Britain is concerned, the concept of a unit trust was invented by a man called lan Fairbairn sometime before the Second World War and originally sold through a company called Mutual and General. This was the precursor of the present M&G Group.

Despite some ups and downs, and what in recent years has been an alarmingly poor investment performance against many of its peers.

M&G remains today the most widely recognised household name in unit trusts. Whether such brand awareness justifies the very full price of £1.9bn Prudential has agreed to pay for it is another matter.

The Pru's Sir Peter Davies is forking out a whopping 35.3 times earnings, or about 10 per cent of funds under management. Using the second yardstick as a measure, this looks expensive against the 3 per cent Merrill Lynch paid last year for Mercury Asset Manage-

:70rtn

370rtn

280rtn

MAM's investment performance has been nothing to write home about of late either, but it has looked positively sparkling against that of M&G, whose flagship (non)



OUTLOOK

Recovery fund has fallen 8 per cent in value in the last year alone. A recent survey by Bloomberg Money found that few independent financial advisers - traditionally a big source of sales for M&G - were prepared to recommend M&G to clients right now.

Michael McLintock, managing director, claims to have changed the investment approach at M&G quite radically over the past two years, so that there are now trusts for all comers, from trackers to bonds and traditional "value" funds. It is more than possible, therefore, that M&G's present reputation for poor Pru has a hill to climb in persuad-

ing the City it has not overpaid. The price justification lies printhat M&G, unlike MAM, is primarily a higher-margin retall fund mancommand a better price. Martyn takeover, seems a fancy one. Arbib's Perpetual, for instance,

trades at 11 per cent of funds under management, and that's with no bid premium in the price at all.

The second is scarcity value there aren't many independent fund management groups of size left to buy. And the third is the enhanced value the Pru might extract by passing M&G through its own distribution channels, and via the greater marketing spend the Pru will be able to put behind M&G's

No one questions the Pru's need to diversify in financial services and add new products. To some extent, it already has. As demand for traditional life products has fallen away the Pru has been active in getting its fingers into a number of different pies. When the price of buying a building society, or newly converted bank, slipped away from him, Sir Peter set up Egg instead value lags the reality. Even so, the as a way of taking the Pru into the deposit and retail banking market.

With unit trusts, PEPs and other forms of retail fund management. cipally in three things. The first is he's going the acquisition route. The strategy seems fine, but the price, given the very limited cost savings ager and can therefore expect to the Pru plans to extract from the

Super Dow

SO IT LOOKS like Abby Cohen is going to be right after all. "Superbull" Cohen, chief investment strategist at Goldman Sachs, caused much merriment among the stock market bears last autumn, when, at the height of the market turmoil, she predicted that the Dow could hit 10,000 within a year. Ms Cohen has had plenty of good market calls in her time, but this is the one she is likely to be remembered for.

Six months on, with the Dow storming to yet another record high, it's the gloom-and-doom merchants who have been left with egg on their face. Ms Cohen, in contrast has been fully vindicated. If anything her predictions are now looking a little on the cautious side.

So the great Wall Street bull market rolls on apace. Or does it? The Dow Jones Industrial Average, to

give the index its full name, is far from representative of the US equity market as a whole. It consists of just 30 stocks, many of which, as the name suggests, are at the heartland of traditional US

Other US stocks, particularly smaller companies, are faring less well. The Russell 2000 index of small-cap stocks, for example, is languishing almost 20 per cent below the high it hit in the spring

And among the bigger boys, the Dow Jones Transport Average is trading more than 10 per cent below its 1998 peak. Internet stocks, too, are beginning to fall out of favour Amazon.com, once the market's darling, is now around 25 per cent off its highs.

In other words, the Dow gives a quite misleading impression of what is happening to US equities more generally. Nearly all stock prices have recovered markedly from last autumn's wobble, but the bulk of the market by number, if not value, remains subdued.

The same cannot be said for the rest of the US economy. Judging by yesterday's retail sales figures, the boom continues apace, with no

sign of a let-up. The consequence of this is that eventually inflation will pick up again in the US - no economy can withstand such an acceleration in the pace of spending without generating some price pressures somewhere. Any resur-

gence in inflation is bound, by prompting a rise in short-term interest rates, to put the brakes on the Dow's recent breathtaking pace of growth.

Unfortunately, predicting that eventually there will be a prolonged setback in the Dow is the easy bit. Much more difficult is to pinpoint the timing and depth of any such correction. In the meantime, it is hard to disagree with the seemingly infallible Ms Cohen that the Dow bull has got a little bit onger to run yet.

Electric defence

MICHAEL STODDART, chairman of Electra Investment Trust, has stirred the pot and come up with a really quite decent defence against Si's unwanted £1 2bn bid. For Mr Stoddart, this takeover

battle is about more than just money. Electra is very much his own brainchild. He has invested much of his life's work in this company, which was founded in 1973. Over the years, Electra has contained some fabulous investments.

It has always irked him that 3i manages to trade at a premium to assets, while his own baby languishes at a chunky discount. Over the years, this difference has gnawed at his soul. When 3i made its surprise bid in January, it therefore seemed more like an insult than an offer.

So he is desperate to see the invader off. Net assets bave been valued at 915p n share and there's to be a tender offer to buy back 40 per cent of the trust's capital. You never really know what n venture capital trust is worth, since its investments are largely unquoted. One person's guess is as good as another's. But if 3i is prepared to pay 705p in paper and cash, it is a racing certainty that it is worth quite a lot

The judgement investors have to make is whether 786p a share for 40 per cent of their holding, plus their remaining holding in the highgeared rump, is worth more than 705p for the whole. The market is right to say that it is,

A £30bn merger to shatter the cosy world of French banking over Eurostar

News Analysis: BNP's bid for two of its rivals has broken the taboo on hostile takeovers in France. If it goes through, anything could happen

IN FRANCE, they do these BY JOHN LICHFIELD things differently. Or they used

largest bank, Banque Nationale de Paris (BNP), for the country's fourth and fifthbiggest banks has left the the EU, are forcing the re-French government and fi- structuring and rationalisation nancial world gasping for of the European banking sector. breath. If the £36hn three-way ... Looked at another way, howmust still be open to doubt - it id id be the largest financial Transaction in French history and the second largest in the history of world banking.

Overnight, it would give the French banking industry - traditionally weakened by moderate size and government interference - one of the largest private banking groups in the world. The new bank would be the largest in Euroland and the third largest in the EU.

The startling offer by BNP as if NatWest and Barclays had agreed to merge and Lloyds TSB stepped in to truy both shattered several French taboos at one stroke. There was no consultation between the top-brass of the companies (as there had been when the target banks, Société Générale and aribas agreed amicably to join forces last month). There was no consultation with the government, which is now threatening to intervene. There was no consultation with the powerful banking unions.

To this extent, the proposed merger is an example of the march of tougher Anglo-Saxon attitudes through the cosy and corporatist world of French business. This is the first hostile takeover bid in the French banking industry but it is cerin Paris

This week's hostile take- tainly not the first in France in over bid by France's second- recent years. It is also a further example of how the coming of the euro, and the lowering of barriers to financial services in

classically French about BNP's approach and its motives. The BNP director-general, Michel Pébereau, seems to be more interested in size and empirebuilding for its own sake than rationalisation or efficiency or shareholder value.

He promises to create a French bank of global scale, which would be capable of competing successfully in Euroland and the world. Economies of scale, however, would mostly be found by merging the three banks' computer networks and possibly their head-

There would be be no closure of high street banks, even though BNP and Société Générale branches stand side by side in small towns all over France, Paribas is a commercial bank but also has regional and local offices which would, it is promised, remain unscathed. There would be no enforced redundancies.

Mr Pébereau, 58, is not an entrepreneur in the Anglo-Saxon sense. He is an archetypical French bureaucrat and business manager: a high grad-uate of the ENA elite finishing school for civil servants, a former chef de cabinet at the finance ministry.

His curriculum vitae is sim-

Michel Pebereau (left), director-general of BNP, arriving in London on Wednesday with the chief operating officer,

Baudouin Prot. BNP's offer is the first hostile bid in the French banking industry

ilar to those of other ENA grad- the world and the new sponsor Kahn seemed to be doing little uates who brought such misery to French state-owned enterprises, such as Elf and Crédit Lyonnais in the 1980s and early

His declared motives - the creation of a French banking champion of global importance - are the same as those which drove Credit Lyonnais to a series of grandiose schemes and breathtaking losses, for which the French taxpayer is still footing the bill.

Unlike that unhappy dirigiste experiment, the proposed Gallic benking giant would be pri-vately owned and would be placing private capital at risk. The root problem with Credit Lyonnais - a French version of the Savings and Loans scandal America - was that the bank's exceutives were allowed, or even encouraged, to speculate with public or publicly guar-

anteed funds. The main driving force behind the double BNP bid is France's most succesful private financial institution, the insurance group AXA - the second

of the FA Cup. Claude Bébéar, President of Axa, which owns a large chunk of both BNP and Paribas, is said to see the new super-bank as the vehicle that can drive French capitalism into the 21st century Mr Bebezu, who is a more Anglo-Saxon type of businessman, expects to be riding in the back-seat of this limousine, calling at least some of the routes

and destinations. Despite his civil service background, it is Mr Pébereau who is taking the bigger risk. If he fails, he is likely to lose his job. His four previous attempts to take over smaller French banks have failed.

The double bid for the other banks - it would be an "association" of equals, he claims, not a takeover - gives Mr Pébereau the satisfaction of scrambling the plans of the Finance Minister, Dominique Strauss-Kahn. The finance ministry had, in the traditional corporatist fashion, warmly welcomed the Paribas-SG merger, which left

to help BNP in its ambition to take control of part of Crédit Lyonnais when it is finally privatised later this year.

Now Mr Strauss-Kahn, the most Blairist and reconstructed of French socialists, faces a dilemma. At one level, the BNP proposals offer him just what successive French governaments have wanted: a French bank capable of playing with the world's big boys and promoting France's wider commercial interests.

But the manner of M Pébereau's bid suggests that the putative giant - Société de Banque de Paris (SBP) is the working title - might break free once and from all from goverriment influence on the banking sector Mr Strauss-Kalm might welcome that in theory but is likely to be more doubt ful about the implications in practice

The creation of such a giant also reduces the government's options for the privatisation of Crédit Lyonnais and might make some form of foreign stake in the recuperating, state-owned bank inevitable. Worse, it might have started a free-for-all in which large, foreign banks come looking for a wider share of the spoils, including, if Mr Pébereau fails, BNP itself. Once the taboo on hostile takeovers has been

broken, anything could happen. The signs are that the French government will do everything in its power to block the proposed merger. If so, the battle will be a bloody and instructive one, pitting the finance ministry and the Banque de France against France's second biggest bank and - in AXA - its most successful financial institution.

That should show how much Colbertian power to intervene in the private economy the French government retains in this global, market-driven age

French meet their Waterloo

FRANCE'S STATE-owned railway may have met its Waterloo. SNCF and the Belgian state operator SNCB are surrendering key functions in the running of Eurostar, the international passenger rail service, to a new company based at the London train station named after Wellington's famous military vic-

Eurostar Group will be run by a board of directors from the three operating railways, and headed by Hamish Taylor, the anaging director of Eurostar (UK), who will become its chief

The group said the catalyst for the move had been the award of Eurostar (UK), the private sector British operating arm, to Inter-Capital and Regional Rail (ICRR), a consortium of SNCF. SNCB, British Airways and National Express

Last week Eurostar said it had increased revenues by 29 per cent in 1998 following a costcutting programme and better marketing

Mr Taylor said: "If we wish to continue this excellent progress we must remove the internal James Morgan/Reuters | barriers that operating as three

BY PHILIP THORNTON Transport Correspondent

separate companies inevitably create."

Eurostar Group said the new structure would allow greater efficiencies, faster decision making and would eliminate duplication - or even triplication of activities and costs.

Under the new system, a number of key functions - commercial, budgets, co-ordination, corporate communications, legal services and IT systems will be run from Waterloo on behalf of the three railways. But production, ancillary revenue, sales and personnel will remain the domains of each company

David Azema, the chairman of Eurostar Group, said: "It will not be dominated by any of the three countries involved but presents an opportunity to enhance this cosmopolitan experience and create a unique public/private sector, pan-European business model."

Euroster (UK) last week announced it had cut its annual losses from £135m to £90m and forecast it would break even on target in 2005, five years before the ICRR franchise expires.

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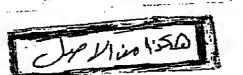
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THE INDEPENDENT

BUSINESS/23

US consumers can't save us from global recession for ever

LOS ANGELES - How long can the American consumer continue to save the world from global recession? At the recent Davos meeting, the US Vice President Al Gore, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and his deputy Larry Summers all made the point that the US could not continue to be the main source of consumption in the world. Other countries had to pick up the baton.

On Wednesday Robert Rubin said it again. "This is not," he said, referring to the imbalance between growth in the US and the rest of the world, "a long-term healthy situation. To have a healthy global economy over a Agustained period of time, all the "major parts need to be healthy." He still expected the US to have solid growth this year, but was concerned about the prospect for 2000 and beyond. Europe and Japan had to pump up domestic demand.

Eventually they may - more of that in a moment – but meanwhile how long can Americans continue to go on boosting spending? Here, on Rodeo Drive, the epicentre of West Coast American consumerism, the boom continues with determined zeal. To the British visitor the most revealing aspect of shop-ping in Los Angeles is that you don't even need to park your car. The store does that for you. If valet parking were brought to Brent Cross think how much inore rewarding the shopping experience would be. America offers not only an abundance of goods; it also offers, at least for

the rich, an abundance of service. But, of course, American consumption is not sustained just by the glitzy West Coast, You would expect, given what has happened to income differentials, the rich to be self-confident about their economic futures and to "vestment may simply be wasted, want to show it. What is perhaps more remarkable is the breadth of the boom, for the not-so-well- much more important than simoff are spending more too. That shows in the savings figures, or rather lack of savings figures, for household saving went negative last autumn. For the year as: a whole it was only 0.5 per cent the lowest level since 1933.

Much of the confidence sup-Corting this spending must be the result of rising share prices, rather as Britons in the late 1980s were prepared to carry on spending because they felt rich on the back of rising house prices. The Dow Jones index hit another all-time high this week and seems to be heading towards the 10,000 mark. This leads to the obvious question of what might happen were Wall Street to fall



MCRAE

The Americans will shop till they drop or at least until Wall Street drops

BUT WALL STREET hasn't And in any case there is such momentum behind the spending boom, it will surely take some time to slow down. In January it climbed by \$14.7bm, the largest increase for three years. The result of such confidence by consumers is shown in the graph: the US looks like having another year when growth in consumption, at 3.8 per cent, will exceed growth in the economy as a whole of 3.4 per cent. No other Group of Seven country seems likely to reach 3 per cent growth either in consumption or in GDP

The proportion of consumption to GDP will therefore rise further. It is already (see graph) the highest of the G7 countries at nearly 68 per cent of GDP, more than 10 percentage points higher than Germany. There is nothing wrong with reasonably high consumption rates in the sense that the whole purpose of an economy is to give people the best possible standard of living. The popular view that consumption is somehow bad and investment good ignores the fact that a lot of what is classed as in-

as Japan has shown. Using investment efficiently is

ply having a lot of it. (A good example is nuclear power. Nuclear power stations cost roughly three-times as much as conventional ones, so switching from conventional to nuclear power shows up as higher inrestment. But the actual power produced is no higher and consumption has had to be lower. So-

ciety is poorer as a result.) Nevertheless, if high consumption shows up in a wide current account deficit as it has in the US, it does ultimately become unsustainable. The deficit is now 3 per cent of GDP. UK consumption is relatively high too, but while the current account has deteriorated sharply since last summer it was actually in surplus in the first part of 1998, and the deficit will still be only about 0.5 per cent of GDP this year. We are more or less OK - the US is pushing the limits.

WHAT THE US consumer is doing, however, is enormously helpful to the world economy at this particular time. If the forecasts for strong consumption growth in the chart are right, and if Mr Rubin is also right in expecting solid US growth this year, then there is a window of opportunity for Europe and Japan to stoke up demand so that the baton can be passed from America to the rest of the developed world by 2000.

Assume then that the US consumers can be relied upon to deliver good growth this year. But assume too that if they weaken the problem will be translated quickly into share values.

Just this week a survey by Mercer Management Consultants looked at 100 of the top 1000 US companies that had suddenly lost 25 per cent or more of their stock market value in recent years. The most important single reason for that loss of value was unexpectedly soft consumer demand. It is very easy to paint the gloomy scene of a weakening in consumption leading to a fall in share prices, which in turn would lead to a further weaken-

ing in consumption, and so on. The key will be Japan and Germany, partly because their size is so great. Private consumption in Japan and Germany combined is \$3,750bn, compared with the US at \$5,500bm. No other country in the world consumes over \$1,000hn-Britain and France are each about \$850bn.

The Japanese tale of woe continues almost certainly for this year and the best hope is that growth will be resumed at last by 2000. Germany, you might expect, would profit from the general European upturn, but the fact that growth was negative in the last three months of last year is ominous. German consumers say in surveys that they are becomin more optimistic, but do not yet eem to be buying much more. At least the big picture of the

world economy is becoming clearer. We know the two questions. Question one is: will the US consumers carry on spending hard until demand elsewhere picks up? And question two is: when they ease up, will Japanese and German consumers pick up the running?

The intuitive answer to the first question, which I think anyone spending some time in the US would give, is that the boom still has considerable legs. Americans are very self-confident at the moment. They are doing the world a great service. It is their patriotic duty to spend money. They will shop till they drop - or at least till Wall Street drops.

For Japan and Germany, of course, the mood is utterly different. It is their patriotic duty to be cautious and save money Consumption will eventually recover, for it always does. But they need to learn a little of the Rodeo Drive culture if they are to save the world economy. Maybe they should introduce valet parking THE GREAT AMERICAN CONSUMER



John Lewis profits drop 17%

JOHN LEWIS Partnership, the By NIGEL COPE department store and Waitrose retailer, yesterday warned of a "sticky few months ahead" as it reported a 17 per cent fall in full-year profits.

However, a VAT refund means that the partnership's 39 000 staff will receive a profit share bonus emivalent to 19 per cent salary, although this is down from last year's 22 per

This will give the entry level £8,000-a-year shopfloor worker a £1,400 pay-out while a £24,000-a **Associate City Editor**

Commenting on the outlook, Stuart Hampson, the John Lewis chairman, said: "I foresee a sticky few months ahead. The second half might be a little easier as we run towards the millennium, but this is a year for taking every week as it comes."

He added that he had seen nothing in Tuesday's Budget to lead to a "feel good factor". But he added: "All we need is for a consumers to blow non-food retailing out of the doldrums."

Furnishings and fabrics did well but the audio-television ranges were hit by "customer hesitation" as digital products are introduced. Stripping out a £33.5m VAT

refund, profits fell 17 per cent to £225m on sales up 2 per cent to £3.5bn. Mr Hampson was downbeat on prospects for the group's 23 department stores, which saw flat sales last year. He pointed to "stagnant sales"

little more confidence among at the turn of the year as an indicator of the immediate trading pattern.

The flat figures included the Cribbs Causeway store which opened near Bristol last year. Two other large stores are due to open at the Bluewater Park shopping centre, which opens in Kent on Tuesday, and at Glasgow's Buchanan Gallery at the end of the month.

Sales in the Waitrose supermarkets rose 3 per cent and a store expansion programme is under way at the chain.

Old Mutual members to get £400 windfall

MEMBERS OF Old Mutual, the BY ANDREW VERITY South African-based life insurer, yesterday voted over- so many members took part whelmingly in favour of and voted 'Yes', de-mutualising the society in "We can now n a decision that will benefit ,000 UK policyholders.

More than 99.5 per cent of votes cast by Old Mutual were in favour of floating the insurer, bringing 300 windfall to each member. Only 0.3 per cent of voters were opposed.

The vote has been portrayed as a moment of "economic empowerment" in South Africa, where the value of the windfall equates to more than a year's salary for a large proportion of the

Mike Levett, Old Mutual's chairman and chief executive, said: "This is a milestone in the history of Old Mutual. We are delighted that 1997.

our plans for the benefit of Southern African." shares worth more than £400 burg. Shares in the insurer are

expected to begin trading towards the end of June with an estimated share price of 11 to 14 rand, or around £1.25. The result of the ballot, announced at a special general

preparation. The intention to float the insurer - by far the largest

first made public in August

It will benefit not only South African and British policyholders, but also members in Bermuda, Malawi, Namibia

meeting held in Cape Town, South Africa, was the climax of more than 18 months of

We can now move forward with the implementation of

members, Old Mntual and The insurer will list in London as well as Johannes-

insurer in South Africa - was

and Zimbabwe - subject to the approval of the courts in each More than 900 employees of Capel Cure Sharp, the private client broker, are also set to re-

ceive 300 shares each. The insurer has run open ations in the UK since the

early part of the century, owning Old Mutual International and Old Mutual Asset Management in the UK. But it has made few signif-

icant inroads into the UK life insurance market.

Some observers have been critical of the insurer's record on lapsing life insurance policies - a key factor in judging the quality of financial advice provided by its sales

any redundancies among

The Servisair takeover is

victory for Jean-Claude Pe-

nauille, the chairman, chief ex-

ecutive and controlling

shareholder of the French firm.

company from a small cleaning

firm into a company quoted on

the Paris bourse with a market

value of over £200m and opera-

tions ranging from industrial cleaning to facilities manage-

ment. The success by Penauil

is a major blow for Amey, which

wanted to acquire Servisair to

boost its transformation from

low-margin construction group

into a high growth services

Mr Penauille has grown the

Servisair's 5,000 staff.

IN BRIEF

Rexam set for further sell-offs REXAM, the paper and films

group, yesterday said it hoped to sell its printing and building/engineering businesses by the end of this year and was looking for more bolt-on acquisitions. The group, which recently received the go-ahead from Brussels for its £380m merger with the Swedish packaging group PLM, has sold over 20 businesses in the past two years.

yesterday closed down 2p at 202.5p after it reported a slight fall in pre-tax profits before goodwill and exceptionals from £190m to £186m last year

Leisure merger

ALLIED LEISURE, the tenpin bowling group, yesterday announced an all-share halls operator European Leisure in deal that will create a new group worth

Allied Leisure yesterday reported a rise in profits before tax to £1.6m (£1.5m) in the second half of 1998.

Watchdogs move

OFFER AND OFGAS, the gas and electricity watchdogs will merge into a central office in London within the next year, the directorgeneral for electricity and gas supply, Callum McCarthy, said yesterday. Offer will move from Birmingham while Ofgas will move out of its current London premises into new larger premises which it will share with

BA goes Dutch

BRITISH AIRWAYS has signed up Base Airlines, a Dutch partner, adding seven routes to its European network.

COMPANY RESULTS

Pay day Pre-tax (£) tha 01.07.99 Alltod Leisure (I) Annoc (F) 28.6m (22.1m) 2.721bn (2.774ba) 132.12m (151.37m) 21.05.99 ton 07.05.99 22.03.99 tha 22.03.96 22.03.98 Ash & Lacy (F) 135.7m (30.83m) 135.7m (20.63m) 496.46m (375.35m) 14.25m (12.11m) 893.0m (911.5m) 18.05.99 26.05.99 16.05.99 30.04.99 30.06.99 31.05.89 0.61p (-6.80p) 15.5p (26.4p) 10.Po (13.0o 4.15m (5.73m) 5.18m (7.79m) 2.72m (6.27m) 16.7m (13.8m) 28.32n (43.02n) 2.21p (3.21p) 3.4p (10.2p) 10.8p (15.9p) 28.05.99 tha 02.07.99 04.05.89 07.06.99 385.27m (257.46m) Keller Greate (F) Lamont Holdings (F) Maggitt (F) — 4.43p (20.01p) 10.3p (9.4p) 0.98p (0.66p) 14.0p (11.89p) 8.5p (8.4p) 83.17m (95.13m) -293.9m (265.1m) 39.79m (26.28m) H 10.58R (s. 7 m) 402.8n (394.6m) 3.86m (2.47m) 26.01m (30.78m) 3.18bn (2.99bn) 1.92bn (2.045n) 795.78m (689.87m) 0.238m (0.081m) 1.0m (5.52m) *773.0m (823.0m) 182.0m (179.0m) 13.25p (13.25p) 15.0p (14.5p) 14.1p (14.1p) 8.4p (-) 01,06.99 tira \$03 14,05.99 04.05.99 25.1p (24.6p) 20.1p (20.0p) -7.27p (-) Record (F) 310 (F) 35.35m (34.3m) -0.259m (-) 23.6m (22.5m) 60.56m (49.66m) 79.3m (90.4m) pre Magre (A) — (-) F) 641.1m (526.4m) 01,07.99 17.05.98 01,07.99 18.3p (18.7p

Amey bid for Servisair trumped

SERVISAIR, the airport services group, looked set to fall into foreign hands last night after the French company Penauille trumped an £81.5m hostile bid from Amey, the UK construction firm, with a £94m

Servisair, which handles baggages and passengers in several UK and European airports, recommended the Paris-based support services group's offer of 230p a share a 15 per cent premium to Amey's 200p bid.

The appearance of the French white knight prompted several major shareholders Servisair, including Schroders, Framlington and

Penanille was believed to be

very close to the 50 per cent threshold last night, after buying around 29 per cent of Servisair's capital in the market and receiving undertakings for another 20 per cent. Servisair shares jumped 24.5p to

Amey refused to comment

but insiders said that it was extremely unlikely to increase its bid. Other potential bidders, including the transport group Go-Ahead and the venture capitalist Compass were also considered out of the running:

sses, represented "good value for our shareholders and an excellent opportunity for... Servisair to develop internationally"

The deal will create a group

John Willis, the Servisair

chairman, said that the offer by

Penauille, one of France's

largest aiport services busi-

with turnover of around £450m and over 29,000 employees. Mr Willis, who will remain in charge of Servisair's UK business, said the geographical fit was excellent as Servisair has no operations in France

and Penauille needed to expand in the UK and the rest of He said he did not expect

Saatchi celebrates 31% profits rise

vertising group, is likely to make double-digit margins m the current year after raising its return on sales to 9.3 per cent in 1998, writes Peter Thal Larsen,

Reporting a 31 per cent rise in pre-tax profits before exceptionals for 1998, Bob Seelert. the chairman, said the outlook for Saatchi & Saatchi was better than it had been for a long time. Last year was the first full year of trading for the company following its demerger from the advertising giant Cordiant. He pointed out that Saatchi

& Saatchi had woo \$500m of net

new business in 1998 - more

SAATCHI & SAATCHI, the ad- than in the previous two years combined. Much of the new business had come from two of the company's largest clients, Procter & Gamble and Toyota.

Since the start of the new year, Saatchi & Saatchi had added a further \$200m of new business. "We are now positioned as a global agency on a world stage," he said. Mr Seelert dismissed sug-

gestions that Saatchi & Saatchi might be reunited with its founders, Maurice and Charles Saatchi, who are running their own rival agency. Mr Seelert said no talks had taken place between the two, adding: "We are two very different animals."

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The Index-Tracking PEP

Source Micropal/LGIM, Legal & General FISE All-Share Index-Tracking FEP on an offer to bid backs broad on all PEP charges with gross become re-invested from QLIL95 (since launch) to re-invested from 01.11.95 (since tanger) to 10.10.379. Pass performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance From 06.04.99 tax credits on UK dividend distributions will only be table to be reclaimed by PEPs at a reduced size of 10%. Both capital and income values may go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. Pail witness details are available on request. All statements are correct as at 0.10.399. The

request. All statements are correct as A OL 15.99. The Government larve announced that contributions can only be made to PEPK until April 1999. From that date a new cax providened savings vehacle, the Individual Savings Accord USA1 will be available legal & General (Direct) United. Registered in England No. 2703090 Registered Office. Temple Court. 11 Queen Victoria Savera, London ECAN 4TP. Representative only of the Logal & General marketing group, members of which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO for the purposes of recommension, advising on and selling life assumance and measurement products.

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THE INDEPENDENT

Financials lead blue chips to another peak

BLUE CHIPS stretched to another peak with Footsie climbing 94.2 points to 6,335.7 in heavy trading. At one time it was 118.8 higher.

The charge was led by financials, inspired by the rich 21.9bn Prudential Corporation bid for the M&G unit trust group, and oils, rallying on the back of a firmer crude price.

The Dow Jones Average's seemingly relentless advance to the 10,000 points landmark was another supportive influence; so were the generally encouraging round of recent company resuits and, once again, the sheer reight of money available for in-restment. Tuesday's Budget was another factor.

The long expected takeover of M&G, which had been linked with an array of financial groups ranging from Halifax to Morgan Stanley sent the unit trust group's shares roaring 662.5p higher to a 2,450p peak -a remarkable 520p above the previous high.

Schroders, despite its frequent protestations that it intends to remain independent, romped ahead with the voting shares gaining 158p to 1,440p, well below their record, and the non voting 103p to 1,176p.

National Westminster Bank joined the cash party with a 73p addition to 1,486p and

THE SHEET

K&H OPTIONS, one of the two London firms which dealt in traditional traded options, has ceased

It is thought to have been hit by the collapse of Irish stockbroker MMI which it put into liquidation last month.

At the time Philip Kitchener, one of K&H's principals, was unable to confirm market rumours that his firm was owed

more than fim. available from K&H yesterday.

clays, down to 838p in Oc-Ober, jumped 79p to 1,893p, just 56p below the high point reached last summer.

Others to move ahead included Lloyds TSB, 40p to 980p, and Standard Chartered 36p to 926.5p. Perpetual, the fund manager, rose 412.5p to 4,042.5p and Amvescap added 27.5p to 646.5p. The Pru dipped 16.5p to 797.5p.

BP Amoco led the oil surge. The degressed sector in the dumps as the crude price hascollansed was inflamed by suggestions that Opec would later today sanction production cuts, which unsurprisingly prompted the crude price to strengthen. BP, which has suffered much less damage than other oil eroups as tracker funds have vestments following the Amoco deal, flared 92p to a 1,021.5p peak. Shell, helped by buyback plans, rose 33.75p to

Enterprise Oil results today, put on 18.5p to 321.5p and

Lasmo 150 to 135p. The two are talking merger and there are hopes the Enterprise figures could be accomparted by details of a deal aithough it is known that Lasmo



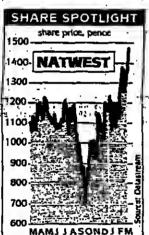
DEREK PAIN

smaller players Premier Oil rose 1.75p to 14.25p and Socco International 4p to 35p. Monument Oil & Gas gained 4.75p

Supporting shares confindices are still well below their peaks. The mid-cap-index gained 84.3 to 5,493.3 and the small cap 19.1 to 2.353.1. Market turnover was again above one billion shares, reaching more than 1.3 billion.

Other takeover bids helped generate the action. Besides M&G, a mid-cap constituent, Allied Leisure, unchanged at 27.5p, is bidding for European Leisure, up 19p to 92.5p, and paints maker Kalon improved 17.5p to 130p as 66 per cent shareholder, the French Total group, signalled it wanted full

Servisair, the aircraft support group, climbed 24.5p to 231p as a white knight, in the shape of another French group Penauille, appeared, trumping the bostile offer from Arney the construction group. The French are offering 230p a share against Amey's 200p. It is thought they



picked up shares in the market and with acceptances already have almost 50 per cent of

Servisair's capital Saltire, a distributor of electronic components, firmed 2,75p to 7p on management buy-out talks. But not all deals are consummated. Packaging group Jarvis Porter fell 8p to 75p as

bid discussions were called off. And English China Clays at one time touched 232p on worries that the £756m bid from the French Imetal group will be blocked; the shares ended unchanged at 234.5p against the 250p offer.

Signet, the jeweller, was the most heavily-traded share with Seaq putting turnover at 84.2 million shares with the price up 2.5p at 48.25p. SG Securities lifted its target price to 60p.

Scottish & Southern, the electricity group, slipped 13.5p to 532.5p as a large line of shares was placed. RioTinto and Billiton were

Diageo cheers solid set of results in tough conditions

Associate City Editor

helped by firmer metal prices.

Rio rose 44.50 to 8720 and Bil-

liton, ahead of an investment

dinner with Schroders, gained

8p to 142.5p. Billiton, the South

African group soon to be joined in the Footsie by South African

Waters again displayed that

sinking feeling on worries about the Government's signalled

probe Gallaher the tobacco

group on its way out of the Foot-

381.25p on its acquisition of RJ

Reynolds British cigarette busi-

Builders, on results, moved

head; construction group

Keller firmed 26p to 238.5p

after a 21 per cent profits ad-

vance. Engineers continued to

strengthen with Glynwed In-

ternational 16p higher, at

227.5p. Chemicals were also

firm. Laporte, ahead of figures

next week, hardened 47.5p to

Mediakey, the publisher,

rose 2.5p to 7.75p. It is in talks

which may lead to a cash in-

jection. The shares have come

EDINBURGH FUND

Bank of Scotland

Investors' Chib.

Managers rose 42.5p to

355p; not on the back of

the M&G bid but because

it was named as the active

fund manager for the new

parade. EFM has recently

Medical International and

Albany International. The

shares were once 758p. . .

the fund manager is:

capitalised at £99m.

After yesterday's progress

down from 71p. Geo Interactive

Media gained a further 12.50 to

77.50 on stories of a link with

Nokia. Reflex, the reflective

inks group, firmed ip to 6p

after moving back into the

Peter Black, the fashion

and healthcare products group,

tions that it is the distributor of

Cellasene, the much heralded

herbal cellulite pill launched this

interest lifted health-care group

Tepnel Life 6p to 17.5p but

Style, the shoe-shop chain, in-

dicated more problems on the

high street, falling 2.5p to 34.5p

by forecasting increased losses.

As befits an IT group these days

Axon made a spectacular

debut, closing at 254p from a

175p placing price. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson thinks the

shares have further to go.

SEAQ VOLUME: 1.3bm

SEAQ TRADES: 98,946

GILTS: 115.04 +2.30

A round of speculative

firmed 15p to 317.5p on indica-

ements with Clerical

concluded fund manager

The company was

chosen after a beauty

ie, dropped another lip to

week's figures.

DIAGEO, Britain's biggest drinks group, yesterday delivered a solid set of half-year results in soite of collap markets in Asis and Latin America.

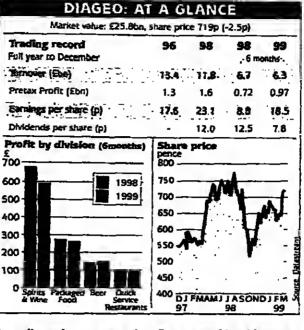
Half-year profits were 12.5 per cent lower at £1.05bm, supported by double-digit profit growth in its main spirits markets of North America and Europe.

Breweries, has held a series of Smirnoff vodka and Johnnie investment meetings lately.

Reed International, the Walker Black Label whisky did well in the US. But the UK British publishing arm of Reed proved a tough market with Elsevier, fell 32.25p to 532.5p on sales of Smirnoff, Bell's whisky and Gordon's gin down sub-stantially in the period. the no growth warning, and Rentokil initial continued to weaken on the back of last

Diageo shares edged 2.5p lower to 719p although the City was encouraged that the cost savings from the £24bn merger of Guinness and Grand Metropolitan in December 1997 are on target at f61m

Assessing the underlying performance of Diageo is as difficult now as it was under the old Grand Metropolitan accounting regime. This year the picture is clouded by a slew of ture is clouded by a slew of per cent to £1.1tm. This might exceptional items, dilutions look unimpressive but is actu-



from disposals, currency effects, the impact of last year's 22.8bn share buy-back and the cost-saving effects.

Stripping all these out, operating profits limped ahead by 3

ally a reasonable achievement given market conditions in major parts of the Diageo

East fell from £84m to £56m, with volumes down 30 per cent. In the



John McGrath: Further disposals are planned

includes Latin America, organic profits fell by 25 per cent although Diageo brands outperformed the market.

Following the disposal of its 49 per cent interest in Cantrell & Cochrane other disposals are also planned by John McGrath, the chief executive. These will include 3 per cent of the spirits business which are considered Pillsbury food division.

In packaged foods, where profits fell by 3 per cent partly due to higher cream costs, the outlook is better in the second half. In spirits the horizon is also clearing as the company is now up against weak comparisons last year and markets appears to be bottoming out.

Burger King, long considered by the City as a disposal candidate, is still a core business, according to Diageo. 'Quick Service restaurants", as the company now calls its Burger King division, is being helped by the launch of its "stealth fries" which have special crispy coatings. But operating profits there are flat and there is a worrying sales dip in the last two months that is being blamed on the weather. Analysts are concerned that lower advertising spend could

have flattered the figures. With hints of more share buy-backs investors should sit tight, analysts say, But on fullyear forecasts of £1.75bn the shares trade on a full forward rating of 21. After a strong run up from 480p in September, the

AMEC dampens Reed disappoints City hopes of UK deal with 6% fall in profits

AMEC, the construction and BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA engineering group, yesterday said it was looking at European acquisitions, dampening hopes of a takeover of a rival UK

AMEC has been rumoured to have looked at a number of British groops over the past few months and was seen as a potential bidder for the confrom Tarmac.

Peter Mason, the AMEC chief executive, admitted that the company had looked at domes - the cut-throat contracting busitic construction companies but ness into higher margin negosaid it had no particular interest it tated agreements, where est in acquiring volume in the contracts life not awarded to ditional building and civil the lowest bidder, engineering in the UK market. The turnaround is under Mr Mason did not rule out. way but with margins of just 1

as to expand in Europe. The nolles, a French engineer with

yearly sales of £1.6bn, and is likely to exercise its option to buy the rest in 2001. AMEC reported a 50 per

cent increase in 1998 pre-tax profit before exceptionals to £71.4m, on turnover marginally higher at £3.4bo. The market welcomed the result and struction division to be spor off AMEC's shares soured 25p to an eight-year-high of 238.5p.

The key to AMEC's success is its ability to move away from

boil-on purchases in Britain but per cent in some histoesses, said that Amec's primary focus "there's said and way to go. With the sh eres on just 12 times company already owns 2.42 the 1995 samings forecast of Reed has been in limbo since per cent stake in Spie Bang around 283m, it is worth buying lest summer, when it amounced into AMEC's transformation.

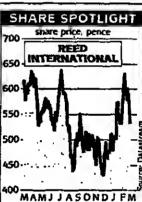
REED ELSEVIER disappointed BY PETER THAL LARSEN the stock market again yesterday after the Anglo-Dutch publishing

coming year are likely to be flat. Shares in Reed International. the UK holding company, lost 6 per cent of their value, dropping 32.5p to 532.5p after Reed Elsevier reported a 6 per cent fall in underlying pre-tax profits for the year to last December. At the same time Nigel Stapleton and Herman Bruggink, the joint chief executives, said "1999 will not be a year of significant profit

group warned that profits in the

growth." However, the stock market reaction surprised analysts, most of whom had already been forecasting flat profits for the current year Some said the share price are in the running for the job. Yesreaction was more likely to be the terday. Mr Stapleton would only absence of the appointment of a new chief executive

plans to appoint a single chiefex- Simon & Schuster, the US pub- stock"



ecutive and chairman. Neither Mr Bruggink nor Mr Stapleton say that the selection process as at "an advanced stage

leading candidate. According to observers, the new chief executive's main task

will be to revive Reed Elsevier's sales growth. Yesterday's results showed that turnover in Reed's continuing businesses grew by just 6 per cent in 1998. The company's Lexis-Nexis online legal database reported revenues up just 3 per cent as a result of competition with rival Thomson.

Overall, profits were hit by Reed's strategy of investing heavily in preparing its existing publications for electronic publishing. Reed invested £80m last rear, and spending is likely to keep running at a similar rate in future years.

Henderson Crostinwaite analyst Louise Barton, who is maintaining her 1999 profit forecast at Jonathan Newcombe, chief out of the way; the current weakexecutive and chairman of ness is an opportunity to buy the

Staying in the City

CANARY WHARF is the best thing since sliced bread, according to the investment bankers who are advising on the Docklands property

scheme's float. Fair enough. The people from Morgan Stanley Dean Witter should know - they are one of the longest established tenants of the East End development Co-advising Canary Wharf on the float are Cazenove, those blue-blooded British brokers. Cazenove still inhabit Tokenhouse Yard in the City, three miles to the west of

Canary Wharf. So at the Canary Wharf press conference yesterday I asked Richard Cotton of Cazenove the obvious question: "When are you moving to

Canary Wharf? Mr Cotton looked somewhat startled and replied: "We have no present plans to move. Mind

PEOPLE AND Business

BY JOHN Willcock

> Morgan Stanley, who was also at the briefing chimed in somewhat gleefully: "They've re-C'mon Caz, show us you really believe in your client.

On location

THE PRESS conference referred to above was held near the Barbican in the City. Why not in Canary Wharf? After all the pathfinder prospectus pubhished yesterday describes it as "a recognised and established location" with "easy access to the rest of London". What better way to advertise its charms than have its press launch there?

George Iacobescu, chair-

plained: "We're having an investors' roadshow here, with bunch and a series of one-hour slots. We'll be having a presentation in Canary Wharf on

provided unwelcome headlines.

workers?"



Tuesday." Personally I think they were wornied that a delay on the Docklands Light Railway might have

Rage in church

STRIDING THROUGH the Square Mile yesterday I was struck by a poster outside the church of St Botolph's Aldersgate headed: "What about the

Far from signalling a new interest in proletarian revolution among the City's faithful,

Reverend David Prior, starting on 4 February with: "Sweat and Pain". This was followed on February 11 with "Rage and Obviously the vicar has City

traders in mind. Four further talks were listed before we ame to 18 March: "Confusion in the marketplace".

Finally on 25 March the Reverend Prior is set to reach the inescapable conclusion: "The time to get out".

Enthusiasts

A FIRM of City recruitment consultants has spotted a trend among candidates to spurn traditional "hobbies" when filling out their CVs.

According to Gillow Purdie Associates, sports, reading, theatre and the like have been replaced by "Shiatsu massage, Feng Shui, ballet, mentoring and photography". And that's just the men.

The female candidates in con-

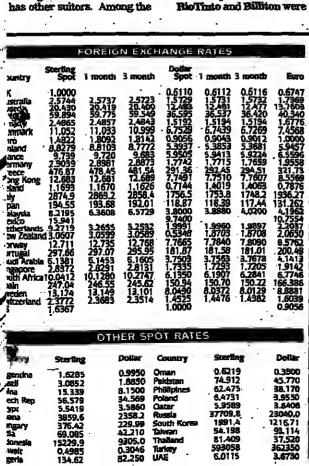
given by the resident vicar, the racing, football, fencing and skiing." Alison Gillow, director of the firm, is not sure whether such role reversal is due to women breaking the "glass ceiling" or to "bormones in the water supply".

Après-ski

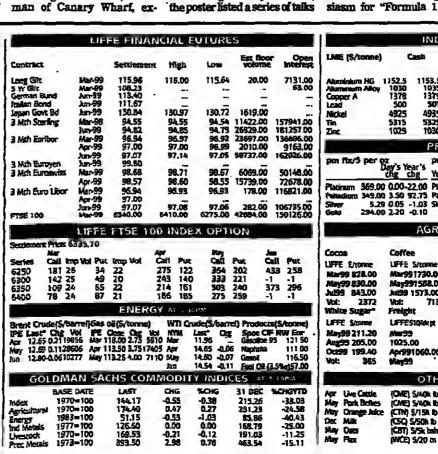
EDDIE THE EAGLE, the erstwhile ski-jumper, gave the after-dinner speech for the City Ski Run last night in the Vintners hall. In two weeks time hordes of City types will descend on Courchevel in France for the annual ski run to raise money

for disabled charities. I hear that last year Roy Tapner, head of corporate finance at Warburg Dillon Read, got somewhat carried away during an after-dinner game.Photos of the larks were subsequently auctioned for £500, but disappointingly found to feature nothing that would embarrass Mr Tapner Let's hope for a better performance this year

trast show an increasing enting- E-mail: j.willcock@indepen-



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SPORT

Boxing: Lewis's heavyweight championship rival puts faith in his Lord to fulfil prediction of a quick victory tomorrow

Holyfield emboldened by high spirits'



RICHARD WILLIAMS IN NEW YORK

HE CUTS a quietly impressive figure at the lectern, addressing a congregation of media folk. His dress is austere, his manner direct. His speech is sometimes halting, but the hesitations are caused by a search for meaning. In his Southern back porch way, Evander Holyfield talks not just a good fight but a pretty good career.

Some back porch, too. That career has landed him, his wife and their four children with an Atlanta mansion worth \$15m (£9.5m), probably the most lavish home in all of sporting history. And the chances are that Holyfield, unlike so many of his predecessors and rivals, will hang on to the spoils of the ring. For this is a man to whom the virtues of bumility and frugality are not unknown. who deals not in hype but in realism.

And Holyfield was not afraid to talk this week, ahead of his reunification match with Lennox Lewis tomorrow night in New York, about the stuff that hurts. Whose punch, be was asked, had hit him the hardest?

"It's hard to say," he replied, "because I've been hit a lot of times, and all of 'em hurt. But I got over it."

Getting over it sometimes took every scrap of willpower. "Problems are part of life," said the man born the youngest of eight children raised by a single mother in Alabama, "The one who finds the solution is the one who gets through."

He talked about the lowest point of his career, and how it all turned around. Not surprisingly, the story concerned the first of his two turnultuous fights with Mike Tyson in 1996, the heroic victory achieved by a stoppage in the 11th round, through which he regained the

"At the time I fought Tyson I was at my lowest." he said. "I didn't know if I still had it." The decline had started the previous year, when he lost for the second time to Riddick Bowe. "I had already told people I was going to carry the Olympic torch as the heavyweight champion of the world in 1996 and then I got in with Riddick Bowe and lost. That fight made me feel that I'd been derailed."

Six months later he found himself in the ring with a much lesser fighter. Bobby Czyz. "I went in there trying to blow him out and I didn't do it. I got the victory but I thought, who can I beat? I wondered if I can't get through Bobby Czyz, what can I do? I felt real bad. Real discouraged. That was my lowest point. I was getting beaten up in sparring. And I was asking the Lord, When is the skill going to come back to me? You supposed to rejuvenate me!" Then He made me start praying. Praying and praising. The Lord told me, victory is mine. A couple of weeks before the Tyson fight, it all came back. Through my prayer and my praise, the Lord had uplifted me. That was it. I would never lose

The combination of Holyfield's constant willingness to share credit allegations that he has fathered up



Evander Holyfield has his hands taped by Don Turner at the Church Street gym as he prepares to face Lennox Lewis at Madison Square Garden in pursuit of the unified world title

to half a dozen children outside his Bowe. If I were still fighting with the marriage form the evidence that persuaded Lennox Lewis, searching for a weakness, to call him a hypocrite. Lewis was on surer ground when he performance, a points win over Vaughn Bean in Atlanta last Sep-

tember as very ordinary. Things like that don't matter because they don't make me no less," Holyfield said this week. "I'm not inspired by what people say. I'm inspired by what I do. That's his opinion. If I was ordinary to him in that fight, that's fine. That don't have nothing to do with this fight. I'm glad that each and every time I come into the ring I have the opportunity to do better and the opportunity to redeem

myself once again." Holyfield's uncharacteristic assertion that he will knock Lewis out in the third round has been disparaged by those who have examined his record since he reached the top and have found little to support his claim, particularly in his three fights between 1992 and 1995 against Riddick Bowe, the fighter who in size and style most resembles Lewis. After the two men had won one fight apiece over the full distance. Bowe decided the series with an eighth-

round stoppage.
"What does the past have to do
with today? It's a different time and a different place," Holyfield said. "Riddick Bowe was able to do something I wasn't able to figure out. for his fortune with his Lord and the that's all. And I don't say that I'm still that same fighter that fought Riddick

same skills I had in 1992 or 1994 or 1995, I wouldn't stand a chance. Lennox would whup that guy. So I'm not going to let you bold me to my

Despite the evidence of his lacklustre post-Tyson displays, Holyfield insists that, at 36, bis development is continuing. "The only thing I see in myself is improvement," he said. "The majority of fighters decline when they're 30. As you can see, I'm rapidly growing. The difference is that I've learnt from my mistakes. I've been fighting an uphili battle all my life and I always overcome things."

The contrast in physique and

styles could hardly be more marked: the former cruiserweight with the six-pack stomach against a former Olympic super-beavyweight champlon. "I don't watch tapes that much," Holyfield said, "but I've seen Lennox fight a few times and in general I know his style. My concentration is on what I have to do to win. He's a target. He's a big target. And when a person's a big target, what is there to do but hit him?"

The famous third-round prediction continues to cause surprise among those who associate Holyfield with a more cautious attitude. "Nothing's changed." he said, "except that I'm a lot more confident than I've ever heen. That's the pable of doing.

only difference. It happened when I was doing an interview on the telephone and my spirit just said, 'Go ahead, tell them you're going to knock him out in three rounds.' It . people are really trying to win, jumped out. It don't have snything to do with Lennox. It has to do with this place and this time. Tve been doing this thing over and over since I was eight years old, so I should have the confidence to say what Pm going to do. I have my ups and I have my downs, hut I've always been able to overcome. Here's a

point in time that I'm in my high spirits, and I know that I can do this not because of what Lennox can do but the fact that I know what I'm ca-

"Lexnox Lewis is good. I'm not I'm going to use it against him. If he talking him down. You have the best of the best in this fight. Because you have the best of the best, and two somebody's going to get knocked out because that's the only way you can hit somebody, when they're trying to hit you. So Pm going to hit him first and get him on out of there in the third round."

motivation of an opponent facing a fight that will define his entire career? "I'm not concerned with what Lennox needs to prove. I'm not concerned with what he may do, because anything Lennox does, I'm going to use it against him. If he moves well,

Seamus McDonagh (Atlantic City) James Douglas (won WBA, WBC, IBF

don't move well, I'm going to use that against him. But my whole thing of doing what I'm doing is not based on Lennox Lewis at all. "I'm at my very best and that's

why I'm going to knock him out in the third round. I'm not telling nobody to believe me right today, but you're going to believe me now or later, one of the two. It don't bother me. And Was he concerned about the in a way you're right. One should be smart enough to say, 'Why should I believe that?' Then later you can say, 'Shoot, be was right.'

But what if ... "Ain't no 'What if'. Ain't no Plan B. Plan A got to work. Ain't but one way. Lennox is the toughest guy out there, but he's still going in three rounds."

And would that, and the reunification of the three major world heavyweight titles, which he held from 25 October 1990 to 13 November 1992, finally allow Evander Holyfield to call himself one of the greatest boxers of all time?

"Tm one of them already," he said, "whether people know it or not. If you look at boxing, you'll see that all the greats built themselves on the foundation of the older fighters. I looked at Ali, I looked at Joe Frazier, I looked at the Brown Bomber, I locked at all those guys. They are the foundation. So the only thing I can say is, I am the very best

"And after that, people can say what they want to say. But I was the best in this era, just like those guys were the best of theirs."

EVANDER HOLYFIELD'S RECORD IN THE RING 1985-1999

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Apr W TKO8
July W KO 5
Dec WTKO 7
Pinklon Thomas (Adlantic C 1989
Mar WTKO10
Michael Dokes (Las Vegas) Carlos DeLeon (Ret. WBA, IBF, won WBC, LV)

TOMORROW

Rogers happy to put wind up Willows

Paul Carberry is hoping to emulate one of his father's achievements by riding the winner in the Gold Cup at Cheltenham next week. The jockey of Dorans Pride talks to Richard Edmondson

IT IS part of Sod's Law of sport that you forever cross paths with past clubs in significant matches in the future. It happens tomorrow to Darren Rogers, albeit rather more rapidly than is usual.

At the end of last season, Rogers was a Salford player. This weekend, he faces his old team-mates as a three games all season - all to us member of a Castleford team trying to knock them out of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup,

Rogers was part of the Salford side narrowly and controversially beaten by Sbeffield Eagles in last

just losing that match knocked the stuffing out of us. We had a hard run in Super League after that and although we played quite well, we couldn't get a win. Our season oever quite recovered," he says.

The lanky winger now wants to inflict more misery on his previous team, but not because of any per- friends.

"I didn't leave Salford on bad terms. I'm still in touch with lads like Steve Blakeley and Gary Broadbent. "In fact, I hope they only lose

and starting with the cup-tie." Rogers spent four seasons at The Willows after signing from his first professional club, Dewsbury, At 24, he felt the time was right to make a move, but returning to his native

Yorkshire - he comes originally

"We were so close to the final that from Wakefield - was a major factor in determining his destination. "I'd been living in Salford in a flat and it was a bit of a case of everybody going off in their separate directions after training - the Pieeaters off to Wigan and so on. I'd reached the stage where I wanted

to be closer to my family and "There were a few clubs inter-

ested in talking to me, but when I through this time - and the often spoke to the Castleford coach, Stu-underrated skills of Rogers on the art Raper, I liked everything be bad to say - especially about the players he was going to bring in and

in rugby league's Challenge Cup tomorrow. By Dave Hadfield

what he was trying to build here. "There are only a handful of teams outside the hig four who can make a serious bid for a top-five spot in Super League and Castleford are one of them

Already, be has noticed the difference at Wheldon Road. "The supporters at Salford were great, but it's been a long time since they had any real success.

"The fans at Castleford expect more, because it's not long ago that loping stride, he is considerably this club was always known as 'Classy Cas'," he says.

After a season of steady improvement last year, those sup- ited more from the lofted kick to the I will be trying for that little bit porters will be looking for a break- wing that has become a part of extra."

wing can make a major contribution.

He is an unlikely looking rugby league player, gangling and lean although not as lean as he once was - in his studious glasses, hut Rogers' Salford years saw him ma-

"I had a bit of a sticky period there playing full-back. The attacking part of the role was okay, but I never really felt at home with the defensive side of the job and I regard myself as a winger now."

ture into a potential match-winner.

He brings a couple of major assets to that position. With his long, faster than he looks, both going for the line and chasing in defence, and there are few players who have prof-

Castleford's lanky winger crosses paths with former club Salford many clubs' attacking armouries over the past few seasons.

Indeed, there is such a difference in height between him and his likely opponent tomorrow afternoon, Saiford's newly-recruited Joey Hayes, that it would be surprising if the Cas stand-off, Danny Orr, did not launch a few kicks towards his flank during the course of the match.

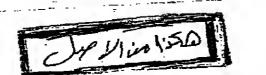
Rogers, a try-scorer in that illfated semi-final last year, could well mark his rite of passage back over the Pennines by plucking one out of their air at Wheldon Road. That is so often the way these things work.

His links with both clubs have made him - unusually for a generally self-effacing player - the centre of attention this week.

"But I'm treating it as just another game," he says. "Its significance is that it's the game that gets us into the semi-final But I suppose



Rogers: 'Fans expect success'



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of piste, with World

Sethi settles for local heroism

victory tomorrow

Billiards graced the green baize TITS week but few wanted to watch

the British Open. By Guy Hodgson

YOU DID not need to know that billiards is the poor relation of snooker, the venue told you. A converted Victorian terrace guarded by a large, loud and lethal-looking Alsatian was pleasant enough but no one would put it on a par with The Crucible. Come to think about it, the practice area in Sheffield is bigger never mind the arena The crowd, if you could call

it that, told a similar tale. Forty souls had wandered in off Liverpool's busy Derby Lane to tch Chris Shutt beat Rex iams 1319-210 in the semifinals whereas 20 times as many at least would have been attracted if the Strachan British Open swapped the name hilliards for snooker. Not to mention the couple of million glued to the green baize on the television.

Pay-per-view did not come into what was on show at the Liverpool Billiards and Snooker Club because apart from a local Merseyside cable station which turned up for a news report yesterday, television was not interested. Even the spectators were allowed in free. The sport has not died but you do have to shake it ever so often to make sure it has merei slozed off. Vin the 1930s Walter Lindrum,

the greatest billiards player ever, was as famous as Don Bradman in his native Australia and banner headlines would celebrate his every move. "Lindrum meets the Queen" was one which was useful because some were too bedazzled by his presence to be sure of the identity of the. woman he was pictured with. If the current world champion, Geet Sethi, met the monarch she would assume be was an Indian diplomat while the great British public would be wholly of the unitied world title is non-plussed.

The course in the Lindrum - We're not fit to sit, said Sethi, who lost in the Figure 1 of the misting Ferreira, a four times would the chasm between snooker ment's highest break of 827 years ago and he had to pocket with also the architect of the what billiards players get to and billiards more in this countries the second best ever under 36 balls. Works of art require game's decline, simply because what footballers or golfers earn. try than the fact that he and current rules. At 21 he repre-

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Chris Shutt, who beat the world champion Geet Sethi in the British Open this week, represents the future of a sport struggling to find an audience

played surpassed Joe Davis, never mind what Joe Public could aspire to, and the world largely turned its back on a sport to which they found hard

Hence the £200,000-plus first prize the snooker world champion will pick up in Sheffield in May compared with the £10,000 Sethi collected in Ahmedabad last September and the £6,500 at stake for the winner in Liverpool last night. Considering that billiards is the senior partner, something has gone dras-tically wrong somewhere. "It's the way things are, so

It is the supreme irony that there's no point fretting about sports are similar yet totally dif-

money in the game but I don't think it has been marketed that well in this country."

Sethi is from a nation where the indifference displayed towards a billiards tournament this week would not be comprehensible. Television andi-

nings by slipping in and out of The Crucible in April and May to report on snooker's world championship for the Hindu and the Times of India, respectively. Funnily enough, John Higgins and Stephen Hendry were not in Liverpool

as the 65-year-old Williams, the world champion for 14 years in the 1960s and '70s and the last player to play both cue sports at the highest level, is a throwback to hilliards' great days. To put that 827 break in per-

spective Shutt, from Stockton-

'Snooker and billiards are similar yet totally different so it is like comparing

what billiards players get to what footballers earn. We'd like more money in the game but I don't think it has been marketed that well in this country'

ences are around 100 million for tournaments in India where he is a household name and a frequent target for autograph

for the Times and Christian compile it and potted more

Indeed, nothing illustrates three days ago set the tourna-

yesterday knocking out reports on-Tees, required 53 minutes to than 300 balls. A snooker max-If they had been they would imum 147 took Ronnie O'Sullicompile at The Crucible two patience as well as skill but

being created rarely is. Which is billiards' problem.

It is a more skilled sport than its rich, flash kid brother but not as watchable and although that ought to suggest billiards players could fit in a quick frame of snooker whenever they need a quick pound or two, the high levels of competition means the opposite is true. Sethi, 37, is in the Guinness Book of Records as the first amateur to make a 147 in competition, yet he estimates he would have been a top 64 player at best if he had stuck with the more lucrative game.

pinpointing the reason why. time in snooker whereas in bilgh, the was so good. The billiards he Of course we'd like more Ferreira supplement their win- sents the future of the sport just while the finished product the first three hours you play satian seemed impressed.

might be inspiring, watching it free and easy hecause you

always have time. The cue action required is different, too. In snooker you hit the ball hard, in hilliards there is more delicacy, spin and side to manoenvre the balls to continue the break. The knowledge required to play billiards at the highest level is greater."

Yesterday it was youth rather than wisdom that prevailed as Shutt huilt an early advantage with a break of 350 on his seventh visit and then was uncatchable. A win by 1,100 points is a massacre and given Williams' stature as chairman of the governing body for snooker and billiards, the WPBSA, lines if he had done it in the 22 You are facing pressure all the rather than the three-ball game.

Instead the feat went alliards, in a four-hour game, for most un-noticed. Still, the Al-

League stands firm on venue

RUGBY LEAGUE

By DAVE HADFIELD

THE LEAGUE is committed to staging the 2000 Silk Cut Challenge Cup final at Murrayfield despite the news that demolition at Wembley will not begin until August next year. The London stadium was expected to be out of commission by next May, so a decision was made to play the final in Edinburgh, after Twickenham and Cardiff had also been considered.

"We have been in frequent contact with the Wembley authorities and they could give us no guarantee that the stadium would be available," said the RFL's deputy chief executive, Dave Callaghan. "We have committed ourselves to Murrayfield and that is where we will be playing the final in

It now seems that the code's biggest occasion could be a moveable feast for four seasons. We were hooing to be back at Wembley for 2003, but it could be 2004," said Callaghan. No decision on venues for the final after Murrayfield have yet been

Referees are to be given powers to send-off interlopers from the sidelines. Watercarriers, whose encroachments have been one of the irritants of the modern game. are to be limited to two per team and any interference with the action on the field is to be punished by a warning. followed by dismissal.

Offenders are unlikely to be shown the familiar red and yellow cards, however. They are in line to be scrapped following discussions with coaches and

The referees' controller, Greg McCallum, favours a return to the old system of simply pointing a player to-wards the dressing-room, holding up the fingers of both hands if he is being sin-binned rather than permanently expelled.

The National Conference League club Ovenden have been expelled for playing a professional under an assumed name. The club, next to last in the Second Division of the competition, have been found guilty of fielding Lee Midgley, a contracted player at Halifax, but said that they were shocked at the severity of their punish-

Midgley, whose father Robert is the Ovenden chairman, was found to have played under the assumed name of David Graham, who is a former Ovenden player, 12 times but was recognised by opposition teams. The Ovenden secretary, Tony McElroy, said: "We expected something other than expulsion. We are devastated. Along with the fines. this could mean the demise of

the club." Terry Parle, who is chairman of both the National Conference League and the British Amateur Rugby League Association. said: "Ovenden officials freely admitted they had blatantly flaunted the rules of the League and, in fact, had cheated. We had no option but to boot them out of the League

with immediate effect." Halifax, meanwhile, have suffered another setback, with their two most experienced forwards out of action for at least a month. Gary Mercer has a neck injury and Kelvin Skerrett has broken a thumb. Their absences will not help the surprise side of last season to overcome what has so far been a slow start to this cam-

London Broncos have signed the former Canberra Raiders prop Anthony Seibold. The 23 year old arrived too late to be registered for Sunday's Silk Cut Challenge Cup quarterfinal against Whitehaven Warriors but will be in line for a place against Sheffield Eagles

year contract and will fill the gap left by the return to Australia of Marty McKenzie.

Williams' Shanghai anger

March Stage out Weeks Agreement than 1750 a terminated MARK WILLIAMS branded conditions in the China Interna-And the first transfer to snooker" often his house to snooker after his hopes of make you want to play. Mind an Asian double were ended by you, Paul played really well fellow Welshman Paul Davies and towards the end he hamyesterday. Williams, winner of the Thailand Master. the Thailand Masters four days
earlier, was scathing about the
table and the room used for the table and the room used for the

tournament at the JC Manderin Hotel in Shanghai.

Forced to play in a small outside areas death as a small outside areas dea side arena due to local Chinese television electing to broadcast the Alan McManus v Mark King match, Williams made his feelings plain. The table and the room were a disgrace for professional snooker," he moaned. "I can't wait to get out of this place.

"It was the same at the Scot-It was the same at the Scot-tish Open in Aberdeen. The out-side table setum. there as well and something

SNOOKER

into a 2-0 lead with breaks of 53 and 48 and looked capable of repeating his 5-0 first-round whitewash of Dominic Dale. The turning point arrived in the third frame. Having opened the scoring with a 58 break, clearance to steal it. The world No 41 then made breaks of 68, biggest surprise of the tourna-

ment so far. "The clearance in the third gave me the boost I needed and my form kicked in," Davies said. "I knew this kind of victory was coming because I have been playing so well in practice. It was just a matter of when."

Stephen Hendry returned to his best during a 5-2 quarterfinal victory over John Parrott. "That's probably my best performance of the season," declared the six-times world champion, who only squeezed nest Steve Davis 5-4 on the black in the previous round. "Wheo you scrape through a match you should by rights Williams missed a black off its have lost it always tends to spot and Davies produced a 67 relax you and that's how 1 felt

out there," added Hendry. His level of relaxation and 50, 51 and 42 to dominate the focus was apparent from the next four frames and record the outset as he prevented Parrott potting a single ball in the opening two frames. The experienced Liverpudlian took

opened the scoring with 51 in the fourth before Hendry rolled in a long red to launch the 87 clearance which gave him a 3-1

Parrott won a scrappy fifth frame but did not take another point as Hendry impressively whipped through the next two frames in only 18 minutes with breaks of 107, 46 and 30. "It was very encouraging,

because I can't remember missing an important pot from distance apart from one when a TV cameraman put me off by moving. I just hope I can keep this momentum going," added Next up for Hendry, who is

bidding to capture his fourth title of the season, will be Billy Snaddon, his practice partner at Spencers Snooker Centre in Stirling for the past eight years.

Mayer takes revenge

trian clean sweep in the final men's super-G of the season in Sierra Nevada, Spain, yesterday to effectively end Hermann Maier's chance of retaining his overall World Cup title. Mayer won in 1min 28.71sec from Andreas Schifferer, in 1:29.06, and Josef Strobl, in 1:29.53.

Maier, the world, Olympic and World Cup champion, finished a disappointing seventh, and his team-mates did him no favours in the battle for the overall crown. He now trails the Norwegian leader, Lasse Kjus, by 102 points with just two races left. Kjus, who shared the super-G title with Maier at last month's World Championships, finished fourth.

If Maier decides not to compete in the slalom, which he does not normally race, then the overall title has been handed

over to the Norwegians. Kjus

has 1,409 points, with compatriot Kietil Andre Aamodt second overall on 1.317. Maier has 1.307. Aamodt finished 16th yesterday, which would normally have given him 15 points, but under the rules operating at the World Cup finals only the top 15 racers score.

Maier was fifth out of the starting but and crossed the line more than half a second faster than the previous quickest and a second in front of Aamodt, but it proved a false dawn for the Austrian as Schifferer, Mayer and then Strobl all pushed him further and further down the

Mayer said: "This is my revenge on the coaches taking me out of the super-G team for Vail. In the morning when I saw

going to be a good course for

Strobl, asked whether he and his team-mates had tried to assist Maier, rejected such a suggestion. "No, not at all," he said. "Everyone has to look after himself." Maier was critical of the con-

ditions. "Normally in such a race I should have been the winner," said the skier who has won four out of six super-Gs this season. "The wind was very important... there was also too much soft snow for my liking. My one goal left is to win the giant slalom, but the way things have been going in the last few days even that is doubtful."

Asmodt said he had slipped at the top and, despite making up speed, the error ruined his

Results, Digest, page 31

place behind Canterbury. How-

ever, fourth-placed Bradford

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Borovets:100% CANADA	Good conditions	35	110	8.3	-1C	Sunny
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Argentiere95%	Powdery high up	130	310	8.3	2C	Bright
Meribel95%	Great skiling	120	240	8.3	4C	Sunny
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Shaw and Thompson in opposition

SLOUGH AND Ipswich collide for tomorrow what is certain to be the first of two encounters BY BILL COLWILL in the next few weeks and could well be three in the final round of women's National League games. With Slough topping the Premier League on goal difference, they will also meet in the League play-offs at Reading on 17 or 18 April and perhaps again at Milton Keynes on

3 May, with Europe the bait for the winner. Neither team will be at full strength, however. Lucy

Youngs and Jane Cook will be missing from the Ipswich lineup and Michelle Hall and the Dutch winger, Monique Slootmaekers, from the Slough squad. The interest will be how the two coaches decide to play this

first leg. Ipswich's Nicky Thompson may be looking to restore confidence and redeem the defeats in recent weeks by bottom-placed Doncaster and last week at Hightown. John Shaw, still smarting

HOCKEY

from Slough's defeat at Ipswich

earlier in the season on a partly frozen pitch, will want to put the record straight. "I don't think I will opt for a are against Hightown tomorrow cat and mouse game," Shaw

said. "My aim will be to get our pattern right with Europe at Easter and then the play-offs in

Olympics, victory tomorrow on points and striving for the will be high on their priorities. At the bottom, Doncaster, two points adrift of Sutton Coldfield, have crucial games away

to Fyffes Leicester and at home to Oiton Terraquest on Sunday, while Sutton's last two games and at home to Slough, yet to be arranged.

The key game in the First Division is second-placed Cheimsford Highway's match For these two Great Britain away to third-placed Aldridge. team-mates in the Atlanta Both clubs are currently equal

could, with wins against Canterbury tomorrow and Loughborough Students on Sunday, claim their place in the enlarged Premier next season. Kuala Lumpur will host the next men's World Cup in 2002. with the women's event going to Perth, Western Australia. The 2002 men's and women's Champions Trophy will be held

in the Super League fixture on March. Seibold has signed a two-

WEDNESDAY'S LOTTERY UPDATE, Draw date: 10/03/99. The winning numbers: 8, 18, 27, 32, 36, 49. Bonus number: 46.

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CATEGORY	NO, OF WINNERS	AMOUNT FOR EACH WINNER	TOTAL EACH TIER			
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Maybe, just maybe. THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

Riders still face Jockey Club scrutiny

WHEN RAY COCHRANE and BY GREG WOOD Dean Gallagher walked out of Charing Cross police station on Wednesday they were flashing the smiles of men with nothing more to worry about. While they have now been ruled out of the criminal investigation into possible race-fixing, however, their problems may not yet be fully behind them. The Jockey Club confirmed yesterday that it may yet take action against the two jockeys, although there is little indication of what that action might be, or wben it might be taken.

The Club does not have the powers of arrest and seizure of evidence which the police could employ during their investigation, which resulted in five men being charged on Wednesday in connection with the doping of two horses in March 1997, However, the Jockey Chib has the authority to impose significant penalties on individuals as it sees fit, up to and including the withdrawal of a jockey's li-

"We will be reviewing all the information available before deciding what regulatory action on our part is appropriate,' John Maxse, the Club's spokesman, said yesterday. "I can't put a date on the decision, there are a few burdles to cross yet, and it is a matter of what, how and The "when" will almost cer-

tainly be after the trial of the five men who were charged with conspiracy to defraud by "interfering with the fair running of horseracing by administering a performance-inhibiting drug". They are due to make their first appearance in court in front of Bow Street magistrates on 14 April, a day after Graham Bradley, the only jockey who has not been ruled out of the inquiry reports to Char- brought. ing Cross to answer his bail. It may be many months, however, before the outcome of the trial is known.

pension or removal of a riders' licence would be a "quiet word" under the Warnings Protocol, which was introduced in 1996. Under the Protocol, licensed individuals who are believed to be associating with known criminals or others deemed to be "undesirables" receive a private warning as to their future conduct. If that caution is ignored, they may then be required to attend the Licensing Committee, which decides whether trainers and jockeys are "fit and proper" people to

hold a licence. "The Jockey Club have been saying that they might take action for some time," Michael Caulfield, the secretary of the Jockeys' Association, said yesterday. "But that's for another day. Wednesday was the first stage out of the way, and it was a huge relief for the jockeys involved. We did fairly well and now there's just one more [Bradley] to go. Now we will have to see how things devel-

Speaking to the Racing Channel at Towcester yesterday, Dean Gallagher said that "it hasn't heen easy and I wouldn't have wished it on anybody, but it's behind me now and hopefully I'll just be able to get on with my life. I'm lucky enough to be able to manage to get through it and now I'll just have to ride more winners".

Next month's criminal proceedings on charges related to doping will be almost without precedent. Horses have been doped or nobbled at infrequent but fairly regular intervals throughout racing history, but these cases have rarely resulted in charges being

One of the few exceptions occurred in 1811, when Daniel Dawson, a stable lad in Newmarket, was found guilty of fa-

horses in his care by pouring arsenic into their water trough. Dawson claimed that he had been paid by bookmakers who had laid substantial bets about the horses, but that he had intended only to incapacitate them. His pleas were ignored, however, and Dawson was later hanged on Newmarket Heath in front of 15,000 people. More recently, Pinturischio,

the ante-post favourite for the

1961 Derby, was got at twice in the weeks before the Classic. So toxic was the dope used by the nobblers that afterwards Pinturischio could hardly stand up. There are other cases. meanwhile, which remained highly suspicious rather than proven. Gorytus, the favourite for the 1983 Dewhurst Stakes, finished last of four, and is widely believed to have been "got at", even though his postrace sample showed no trace of dope. In neither instance, however, were any charges brought



stable-companion Theatre-

world, runner-up for the last

unseated his rider at the last)

are the only other acceptors to

run in the race 12 months ago.

sentative of Venetia Williams,

who has withdrawn Happy

Change and Stretarez. Others

taken out were Juyush, Prince

Of My Heart, Toto Toscato and

Lord Gyllene has been ruled

out of the Grand National. The

1997 winner has suffered a

pelvic stress fracture and will

François Doumen has de-

cided against sending any run-

ners to Cheltenham next week,

including his highly regarded

Newbury winner Quel Senor.

miss the rest of the season.

last year's fourth, Pridwell.

Bellator is the only repre-

Nick Dundee and his trainer, Eddie O'Grady, confer over riding plans for Norman Williamson at Cheltenham

Trouble mills for Williamson

CONFUSION PERSISTS as to Norman Williamson's riding plans for the Cheltenham Gold Cup after the top Irish novice chaser Nick Dundee was announced a possible runner in chasing's blue riband event.

It had been assumed that the Irishman, who landed the Gold Cup on Master Oats in 1995, would partner Tecton Mill and ride Edward O'Grady's Nick Dundee in the Royal & SunAlliance Novices' Chase the previous day.

However, speculation that Nick Dundee will instead take his place in the Gold Cup has caused a dilemma for the jockey. With an announcement on Nick Dundee's chosen race expected at the weekend, Stephen

Williamson had agreed to ride the Venetia Williams-trained grey, on whom be has won the Hennessy Gold Cup and King George VI Chase.

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Vilprano (Ayr 3.20) NB: Sol Music (Hereford 2.25)

"All I can tell you is that Venetia has assured us that Norman Williamson will ride the horse," he said. "We will be disappointed if he doesn't and, quite frankly, amazed.

"I am not happy about the situation as it stands and we Winstanley, hoss of Teeton have made contingency plans tally poisoning three of the Mill's owners. The Winning if he doesn't ride. We won't be

Line, claimed yesterday that left without a top jockey for the 12-length winner Istabraq, his race, that I can assure you."

Williamson, regular partner of both horses, stressed he has two years, and Bellator (who not ruled out riding Nick Dundee, who runs in the colours of Sue Magnier, should the gelding run in the Gold Cup. "I am pretty sick of it all," he

said. "I met Mr Magnier yesterday and we spoke at length. I appreciate that people want me to make a decision but there is no point in me saying what I ride until a decision about Nick Dundee is made." Dato Star is a surprise with-

drawal for the Champion Hurdie, for which 17 entries were confirmed yesterday. The eightyear-old is "not moving properly" according to his trainer, Malcolm Jefferson.

Last year's record-equalling

ANTE-POST

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Silver Charm was yesterday installed as the 7-4 tereusite for the Dubsi World Cup by Corel sheed of the Derby Winner, High-DUBA! WOFILD CLIP (27 March): 7-4 Sil-

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Sec. 24.

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With the Contractor

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SANDOWN

HYPERION

2.00 Knight's Crest 3.45 Lord York (nb) 2.35 Native King 4.15 Braes Of Mar

3.10 Symbol Of Success 4.50 CHEVALIER ERRANT (nap) GOING: Chases: Good, Good to Soft in places. Hurdles: Good to Soft, Soft in places. ■ Right-hand course; seven testing fences along back straight; run-in of 300yds. ■ Course is on A307, 4m S of Kingston. Esher station (service from London, Waterloo) agons course. ADMISSION: Club Etg. Jumor Club (17 - 21yrs) £12; Grandstand & Paddock £10; Park enclosure £5 CAR PARK: Free.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

ILEADING TRAINERS: D Nicholson 21 was from 103 curners (204%). J Old 19-58
(339%). N Henderson 16-105 (152%). P Hobbs 13-52 (25%).

ILEADING JOCKEYS: R Dummody 31 was from 129 ades (24%). A P McCoy 20(05 (189%). J Oaborne 17-89 (181%). A Maguire 17-92 (185%). # FAVOURITES: 125 was from 361 races (auccess rate 348%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

COUR DISTANCE LIVAGETTEN: CHARMING SLIBING NORM 1920 00041 8044 3/3 LINES
2.00 WORCESTER PARK NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (D 26,000 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £4,299
CAPP KNIGHT'S CREST (28) (D) (BP) (G Husby) P Didon 9 to 10
10 FFREFA RAMBLING SAM (20) (b) (C J Johns) G Batong 7 (10 B Custon & Coffee 4 Common words) 10st True handcap weights: Mr Perlupp 9st 12th, Vol Del Custon & High Thyre 9 Vol. Common Lad 9st 10th, Rembling Sam 9st 9th Perlupp 9st 12th, Vol Del Custon & High Thyre 9 Vol. Common Lad 9st 10th, Rembling Sam 9st 9th Perlupp 9st 12th, Vol Del Custon & High Thyre, 9st 9st 9st 10th Vol Del Custon, 25-1 High Thyre, 35-1 offers 15-2 Custon Path 6 12 0 M A Fazgerald 3-1 (N Handerson) 7 cm

FORM GUIDE Knight's. Crest: Won handicap at Ludlow Gm. good) and novice event at Warwick Sm2t good to soft late last year. May have needed race when pulled up last time. Lead Vocalist: it lengths second to Looks Like Trouble at Doncaster (Sm. good to soft, novice) out begans 20% lengths further behind same had here rest time. Germson Friendly: Won 17-runner novice handcap at Windsor (Am. good to soft). One cambon Presonty: Won 17-humar novoco hardcap or Windor (am good to sort). One poor run since and one good, before undone by jumping errors latest start. Country Store: Short-head winner of Taunton (3m, soft; 3b higher here) and not discredized back over hundles where 16 days been, her only two runs for Martin Pipe. Proceed: Well treated on hundles form but has shown very little over fences this term Mir Perkupp: Winning pointer in retaind last year. Has hinted at a tittle ability in novice chases here this season. Out has not yet looked on accomplished jumper. Via Del Quatro: First with under rules in poor 5-furiner handcap at Fortiwel (3m2). good) in October. Several most unispiring efforts as well, and off for over 4 months High Thyria: Has accomplished intite under rules, probably best effort when well-beat-on third of 8 in novice chase at Herisford (3m1f, good). Has raced on soft since eymone Led: 33-1, hinted at a return to form here (3m, good) 3 weeks ago, malong ist but taling 2 out. 4th out of handicap and overall has plenty to prove mitiling Sent. 1% lengths second of 4 to Executive King at Newbury (3m, good) in November Failed to complete next 4 starts. Last of 4 when no chance on lates of jumping. Kinight's Creek, Lead Vocalitet and Gainteon Priendly at have disappoint ing last time-out efforts to longive but would otherwise head the short-list. COUNTRY STORIE, however, has done nothing would otherwise head the short-list. VERDICT: Few of these rispire any confidence; most have not yet mastered the art of jumping. Knight's Great, Leed Vocalist and Germeon Priendly at have disappoint.

2.35 RACAL NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £6,000 added

STORE, however, has done nothing wrong since joining Martin Pipe and it is always possible that the champion trainer can conjure up some improvement out of her.

ľ	ــــا		Till of Letigith Agine Talato
١	•	313	NATIVE KING (26) (C) (Doubleprin) J Old 7 ti 5 M A Fitzgerald
	2	5-330	RUSSELL ROAD (34) (Mrs I, Field) D Nicholson 7 ft 5 R Johnson
	3		CHICAGO CITY (102) (S N J Embricos) J Gifford 6 11 0 R Dunwoody
i	÷	50	COLD CLASS (60) (Tomorrous Easy Partnershot) O'Gresol 6 11 0 J Goldstale (3)
	5	525	HIGH GAME (21) (C F Sparrowtrawk) OL Moore 5 Ti O
	6	4	KINGS VEAN (14) (Airs Downs Wheeman) J King 7 11 0
	•	J	LIGHT REFLECTIONS (23) (Mess J Collision) P Murphy 6 # 0 L Aspell
	B	PP	LONE STAR (91) (Liplands Bloodstock) S Sherwood 7 ti 0 G Bradley
	ā	P	MOONDARGA (NZ) (76) (Sir Enc Parker) Mrs A Perrett 6 11 0
	50		CUICKSWOOO(5) (Harvey Spack) C Barwel 6 11 ()
	11	65-C40	MY OLEMOALOUGH (106) (Mrs Mary Doyle) K Comericad 6 10 9
			- 11 declared -
	BET	TING: 7-4	Russell Road, 4-1 Kings Vean, Native King, 9-2 Chicago City, 6-1 High Game, 20-

1 Lone Star, 33-1 others 1998 Good Lord Murphy & 11 12 F Durwoody 11-4 (P Hobbs) 9 ran

FORM GUIDE

Native King: 10-length winner here (2m, good) from Antenia on hurding debut. Third of 15 to impressive Bacchanal here (2m, good to soft) when may have needed race Russell Road: Progressive staying hurder, winner at Towcester (2m5), soft) and placed behard Bosur's Mate at Newbury and Door To Door over this C&D (beater 4 lengths) Chicago City: Good-looking Byo. Pair form in nonce hurdes just two seasons, placed in November at Windsor (2m, good to soft) and Folkestone (2m6), soft).

Cold Class: Modest form in mid-division for bumpers (both on heavy ground) at Folkestone (2m6), soft of the progression of the progressi stone and Fontwell, soon pushed along. Probably stiff task on hurdling debut

High Game: 18 lengths behind Native King when fifth to Bacchenal over 2m here (good to soft) lest month. Better form earlier when placed on heavy at Fortwell (2m2f) Kings Vestr: 33-1 good debut eftert when 11/a lengths kourth of 7 finishers to Percy Parkesper at Kempton (2mdf, good), Open to considerable progress Light Reflections: Very little to recommend him from Flat or hurding debut Lone Star: Half-brother to Jodani. Showed little in novice hurdles at Newbury (2m.

Lone Star: Hell-brother to Jodani, Showed little in novice hurdes at Newbury (2m. good) and Concaster (2m4, good), off course 10 months in between Moundargac Witner on Flat in New Zeakand, 60-1, burly and pulled up on British debut in 9-runner novice hurde of Kempton (2m. soft) Cluickswood: Modest bumper from before 7/4 lengths tourch of 5 frashers on hurding debut at Exeter (2m1), good). Has out no toe since and is up against it here lifty Glendalought Formerly trained by Francis Flood in Ireland, sall a malden after campaign in bumpers and over variety of trips in novice hurdine.

VERDICT: Native King and RUSSELL ROAD have accomplished more than their rivals, the later militing plenty of appeal after taking on a better close of apponent on his last two starts. High Gente cannot be demissed on his best form, while both Chicago City and Kinge Veen are taking sorts from stables which have been out of form in recent months. Jeff King, Kings Vean's trainer, has been showing signs of a revival.

2 10 HORSE & HOUND GRAND MILITARY GOLD CUP (AMA-

Ŀ	<u> </u>	TEURS) (E) £7,000 3m 110yds Penalty Value £5,084
T		CASTLE COIN (20) (Naj-Gen C Remany J H Johnson 7 12 10 Net G Winsdor (7)
2		COURT MELDRY (70) (CD) (T Chappel) P Nichola 11 2 10 Mr D Alers Harring (5) 8
3		DRINGTS BROOK (70) (U) (May A M Everett) K Bailey 10 12 12
4	354	
5	4-3₽π	SYMBOL OF SUCCESS (5) (CO) (Array Ar Corps) O Willards 6 12 10 Maj 8 J Robinson (7)
6		ACT THE WAG (882) (CD) (R Ogden) M Extraner 10 20
7	P.PP.P	BARICHSTE (12P) (II) (Ala J Hayward) N Pombet 11 120
8	25/252	CHARDEN (23) (O) (Mess S Cotter) J Maliera 13 120
9	042PP	COOLE CHERRY (71) (H Sports) C Sarwel 9 12 0
IJ		ENSIGN EWART (36) (D) (M W Sample) Nas J Storey 8 120
11		GRANGE BRAKE (26P) (U) (H R Mould) Mrs C Twiston-Davies 10 12 O.Mr P Study (7)
2	P-6333	JULIARIA (17) (II) (A C Blog Williams to 20
13	P0-U32	MASTER CRUSADER (SP) (D) (Mes L Homer) 8 Moore-Willers 13 120 Miles L Horser (7)
14		DUNNECKS COUNTRY (22) (15th Reg. Royal Artiery) C Tozard 9 tl 9 Mr S Greeny (7)

BETTING: 3-1 Symbol Of Supposes, 4-1 Court Melody, Johann. 15-2 Onlife's Brook, 9-1 Act The Wag. 5-1 Castle Coln, Charden, Grange Strake, 20-1 others 196 Siver Stok 11 17 5 Mr M Watson (7) 12-1 (M W Easserby) 15 ran

FORM GUIDE

Dunnicks Country: Another who looks well out of her depth

FORM GUIDE

Castle Coin: Won at Cork (2m5), heavy) and Sedegfield (2m5), good) last season and wel-hosten third in Grade 2 at Antitree (2m1). Deappointing this form Court Melody: The class horse in the race, winner over C&D and second at Antiree (both good ground) liest two starts this term. Has, however, shown no enthuseam on either start since, eventually refused, Chances depend on a change of attitude Druid's Brooks Below-form fourth in this event last year. Decent placed efforts this term at Humangdon (2md) spool) and furfield (2ms, soft), but consisting to find horth Kittlearny: Won by 7 langths in novice chase at Teamon (2md) soft). Some aenous emors when goor last of 4 on soft at Plumpion, Needs to Improve on all froms Symbol Of Success: In excellent form, with wirs over C&D (from Euboy and Harishham) and at Ludiow (3m, beat Stammore 15): lengths), both on good to soft.

Act The Wagr Would be in the shale-up is he reproduced his form of 1996/97, which included fourth in the Scottish National (4m1) good). Unneed since, however Barishaste Pulled up last four sains in huntar chase and points.

Chandles: Cyo, well below his best on return to action this term with 7 lengths second of 4 finishers to Chamme's Well in humber chase at Followship e.m2t, soft).

Coole Cherry: Out of his depth on hundles form and no form over lenges. ond of 4 firshers to Charmer's Well in hunter chase at Follestone (and), soft).

Coole Cherry: Out of his depth on huntles form and no form over lences.

Eneign Branch 20-length winner of 6-runner hunter chase at Kelso (3m4t, good) last.

March. Has not reproduced that form in three starts since.

Grange Branch: Formarly a smart chases, but now it and accomplished little in four starts in handicaps last season. Pour winner this term.

Juliana: Fairly useful chases, creditable third at Wincardon (3m1f) and Exeter (2m7f) this season, both on good. Latest third place was back over hundles. Charties.

Missilar Crussider: Shift task on form from novice chases, hunter chases and points.

Namelica Country. Acceptar who professed out of his depth.

VERDICT: This should be won by either Court Melody, Symbol Of Success or JULTARA. Court Melody may at may not have been treatened up by a recent break, but looked as sour before it that, despite having clearly the best form, he cannot be recommended. The other two are in good form and there is table between them. 3.45 TOTE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £7,500 added 2m 6f Penalty Value £5,485

BETTING: 9-2 Mister Generusity, 5-1 Supreme Genotin, Wontcostalothut, 11-2 Lord York, Whitechapel, 5-1 Another Night, Equity's Durling, Insud, 14-1 Fer Daven, 16-1 The Networman. 1998: The Profes 7 71 10 J Goldstein (7) 3-1 (ey (N Tweston-Davess) 12 ran.

FORM GUIDE Far Dawn; Without a win since December 1996, Chance on several of his placed ef-forts in the meantime, but below form this term and has looked relucant, Whitechapet: Useful middle-distance stayer on Flat for Lord Hurstingdon, Hee had only Whitechapes: Leafur micro-oscance sayer on Hair or Lord Humingdott, resinate only two runs over hurdles, winning a Chepstow nonce in March 1994 last time Imad: Won 12-runner race at Foliastonia (2mtl. soft) in November by a neck Good second in nonce chase at same course foliawing month. Should stay well Suprame Genotim: 4-9, first success in novice hurdle at Wetherby (2mtl. good to soft) in April. Satisfactory reeppearance when buckward at Ascot last month. Lord York: Progressive novice last term, winning at Doncaştar (2m4), soft) and third at Ayr (2m4), good to firm). Well below form this term, starting over fences. Wordcostatotbub: Won at Newton Abbot (2m6t, sort) in December, Solid handcap form last two starts, both 3m1f on heavy, behind Britishe at Wetherby last time. The Newtonians Won novice hundle at Fortivell (2m2t, good to firm) last March. No promise in hundicaps last two starts this term. Another Niights in trame off 4th/5to higher marks this season at 2m to 2m4t. Showed Whether Register a facilities of integrating the mains the second and a first Schwad little with much either atamins test on I heavy ground leaset outling. Mileter Generoeity: Improved form test two starts, second at Taunton (3m, soft) and whiting 3h-numer race at Ludow (2m2), good to soft). Shorter hip is against him Equity's Destings: Unnebuloble man, but witness at Ludoskid (2m4), heavy) and Folkestone (2m6), soft) test two starts, having been reluctant to race first occasion and got well behind on second. 9to higher than for first of those wins.

VERDICT: A hard roce to weigh up, with a number of these apparently better over tonger sine (including Workcostolothert and Mister Generoeity) and others out of form or temperamentally quirky, the most notable in the latter category being Equity's Dang, A return to form from Lord York would be no great surprise, but the best value may its with MAAD, who has had only storages over the test two seasons but has near-

A 15 DUKE OF GLOUCESTER (PAST & PRESENT) HUNTER

Ľ		CHASE (H) £3,000 3m 110yds Penalty Value £2,042
1	11224-	BRAES OF MAR (287) (CD) (Queen Elesbeth; N Hendeston 9 12 11Maj (O Ellecod (S)
Z	00P-2	SILVER STICK (34) (CD) (Lord Moreon) M W Easterby 12 12 11 Mr M Watson (6)
3	F2-21	EXTRA STOUT (20) (D) (J) 5 R Natural A J Marin (H) 7 12 4Mr J Niction (7)
4		STAKELIE FORT (12P) (D) (TR P S Norton) C Storey 11 12 4
3	5-2443	MESCHIEF STAR (26P) (M Coburt) R Barber 6 11 13 Mr 0 Alers-Hankey (5)
	44.0	- 5 declared -
В.	T (P)G: 7-4	Fatra Strut. 2-1 Silver Stick. 9-4 Brass Of Mar. 14-1 Minchel Star. 18-1 Stellane Fort

1999: Brees Of Mar 6 11 11 Major O Brecod (7) 6-4 fav (N Henderson) 6 nan

FORM GUIDE Brass Of Mar; 6-4 tavilurin, won this race 12 months ago (good to soft) and kept his form well afterwards. Lidey to be fit and ready for this reappearance Silver Stock Won the Grand Military over C&D (good to soft) 22 months ago. A reproduction of that form would see him win this, and his reappearance second at Wether-

by last month was a promising enough performance. Extra Stout: Poor rules form over hundles. Faller in hunter chase last March but has exon source foor rules form over number, felter in number chasse last March but has won a port in iteland this season. Staligua Fort: Fair form in hunter chases, 33-1 when well held in third behind Jigtime at Nelso (2mt) god to firm) last May. Third in points title year, Carnot be nuled out altischied Star. Novice huntler/chases, modest at bent. Well-beaten last of 4 finishers in bandicap huntle in August on last start under rules. Third in a point since

VERDICT: it is hard to assess Extre Stort's irish point form. Lest year's Grand Mis-tery wrong SILYER STICK is the pick of the home contingent on form, but he does not have that much in hand of either Brees Of Mer or Staligue Fort.

4.50 BUSHY PARK 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £2,905 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £2,905

2F-21 CHSF WARDANCE 2D) D7 (Mr. J. Woodward Mr. S. Lamyman 5 11 5 — R. Farran 2-222)

2F-3 ESTATE ASSET (16) D7 (To J. A.C.m.) P. Nichola 6 11 5 — J. Titasen U-3-223)

US-301 MCONSHME BAY (162) (Mr. J. J. A.C.m.) P. Nichola 6 11 5 — P. Hida 1-1025

ALIA (50) (D7) (The Altherists) N. Tiviston-Daysis 6 11 0 — C. Liewelly: 05 CHSVALIER ERRANT (50) (J. Adom) J. Adam 6 11 0 — B. Powell CONSTANT (50) (J. Adam 5 11 0 — R. Damwood) 05 HERSBAHEAU (52) (M. Bacher) J. P. Hida 11 0 — R. Damwood) 05 HERSBAHEAU (52) (M. Bacher) & D. Besthar) M. Williamson (55 KEYNOTE (21) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 — J. A. Magnell (57) OTAGO HEIGHTS (57) (Mr. Ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — J. A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — J. A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — J. A. Williamson (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — J. A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — Mr. A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — Mr. A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — Mr. A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson Bloodstock) R. Rove 7 11 0 . — Mr. A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson R. Rove 7 11 0 . — Mr. A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson R. Rove 7 11 0 . — Mr. A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson R. Rove 7 11 0 . — Mr. A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson R. Rove 7 11 0 . — Mr. A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson R. Rove 7 11 0 . — Mr. A. Magnell (57) (Mr. ad. Jackson R. Rove

BETTING: 11-4 Estate Agent, 9-2 Alta, 5-1 Moonshine Sey, 11-2 Rocabes, 7-1 Chevelier Errent 8-1 Chief Wardsmay, Dregos Lend, 20-1 others 998, Anderso 7 ii 7 R Curwoody 5-11 for (Lady Herries) 14 van FORM GUIDE

Chief Wardence: Progressive remote second to Semeksen at Wetterby (2m, heavy) before winning 20-hanner race at Newcestie (2m, good to noth) from Big Amil Estate Agent: Reliable sort, numer-up in three novice hurdes before winning one at Wincanton (2m, good to suff) by 1% lengths from Father Kriemse. The form pick Moonshine Bay: Third to Woodheid Gale at Wetherby (2m4), soft). Proor effort next time but justified fevourism back on soft in 7-rumer race at Foliasstron on lates: Afts: Consistent in bumper, but has been very in and out over hurdes, chances here on her win at Eveter (2m1), good) and third at Unioseter (2m4), soft). Chevaller Ernant 72,000-guines son of Strong Gale 9-1, eye-catching hurdes debut in 9-rumer race wan by All Gond at Donester (2m, good) as soft, every chance 3 Chevalier Errant 72000-gines son of Strong Gais, 9-1, eye-cathing hardes debut in Shurner race won by Al Gong at Donessiar (2m, good to soft), every chance 3 out before going down by 89/4 lengths in fifth. Has pierry of potential Dragon Lond: Pathy useful bumper form for Lady Hennes. Placed in newton hurdles won by Copper Corn at Windsor and Royal Castle at Retention. Has to improve Herbisaheed: Seventh of 8 in bumper at Worcester (2m, good) for Greiner McCourt. 25-1 renote auch of 10 firehers in maidon hurdle at Folkestone (2mb) heavy). Keynote: 50-1 (25% lengths sixth of 5) to impressive Secchenel on hurdling debut over C&D (good to soft) last month. Will do better, but has an awful lot to find boday. Chago Heightes: Second in a bumper at Utoroster (2m, good to firm) in May 1997. First run since, pulsed up (but sipped) as 12-1 chance in 13-runner novice at Wincenton Razor Ruddoeic Farty useful form when thred of 25 in bumper at Chellertistan (2m, good to soft) won by Prominent Profie, 14-1, talled-off last of 8 firshers in novice hurdle at Accot (2m4) good to soft) three weeks later (Phinos 50 by Teenose 50-1, remote last of 24 in bumper at Newbury (2m, good). Rocestees Paced at around 2m on a soft surface at Hurtingdon, Hereford and Ludiow, in bumpers on first two cocasions. 7 lengths thred of 13 to Bettern Ster at Ludiow at last-named. Something to find on form, but is the type to progress.

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The Bizz: No form in bumpers, at odds ranging from 33-1 to 100-1 VERDICE Wincerton where ESTATE AGENT has an obvious chance to register the doubts. Those with lesser form who are open to improvement include Chief Wenders, Chavaller Errart and Oregon Lord, with the long-distance traveler Chevaler Strant (orco-raced over hurdes) very much one to note in the betting exchanges.

WINCANTON

2.20: (2m, maiden hunde) 1. TEQUILA _____M A Fingerald 4-5 key 1. TEQUILA _____M A Fingerald 4-5 key 2. My Mars Dan ______ T 3. Goldo _____N William Is ran. 21., 5, 1., 11., 12. (winner bay colt by Myssiko out of Black Ivor, trained by N Henderson, at Lambourn, for Maj Gen Culy Watidns & Sir William Purves). Totte vin £180; places £10, £560, £320. DF: £3440.

2.50; (2m 5t novice chase)

Also: 3-1 Holdsinclose, 5-1 Capenwrs (Hth), 11-1 Osidands Word, 20-1 Camitro 33-1 Northern Hide.

4.20: [3m 1f 110yds, hunters chase]
1. SKIP*N*Trade_Mr M G Miller 10-11 fav
2. Comedy Gayle_Mr 1 Widdicombe 9-4
3. Seate-Toy
Also: 8-1 Badger Beer (4th).
4 ram. 13, 3%, hd. (winner bey pelding by iddics Design out of Skipton Bridge, trained by R Miller, for M S Rose). Tota: win £170.
DF: £200.

4.50: (2m 6f, handicap hurdle)
1. NIGHT THYRE _____ Ar R Fornistal 13-2
2. Situe Blazer _____ C. Maude, 4-1 Jr fav
3. Weiter's Destiny Sophie Mitchell 10-1
Also: 4-1 Jr fav Entefact (4fh), 6-1 Derivg
King, 6-1 Strongdeks, 10-1 Berkeley
Square, 10-1 Sandoran (8th), 12-1 Landlord
25-1 Now Statesman, 33-1 Denoing Poser
8th), 110-1 Laberhan

25-1 New Statesman, 33-1 Dancing Poser (5th), 100-1 Lajachel.
12 nan. 1s, 4, 3, 1, 26. (winner bey gelding by Good Thyrie out of Night Blade, trained by M Roberts, Halisham, for Mile Roberts). Tote: win £790; places £210, £10, £200. DF: £1000. CSF: £2387. Tricest: £23898. Tote Trifecta: £162,90. NF: Sea Tarth.

C Coral, H Way Hit, L Ladhroles, S Starley, T'Ris

Piles. "With the Flat season just around the comes, we thought we would shart the ver Charm, 5-2 High Rise, 3-1 Victory Gellop, 5-1 Daylami, 14-1 Abradavetel, 16-1 Malek, 25-1 Central Park, 40-1 Fum-

> CARLISLE Going: Soft (Heavy in places)

5.00: 1. DENARIUS (Richard Guest) 4-1; 2.

Hernita Mor.100-30; 3. Fishid's Lad 3-1 fzv. 9 ren. 1s, 7. (W Heigh, Melton), Tote: 2560; 2220, \$160, \$130, DF: \$3420, CSF: £1821

TOWCESTER

Going: Soft (Heavy patches)

Place 6: 2797, Place 5: 2498.

RESULTS

2.00: 1. SIR BOS (C McCormack) evens far; 2. Who Daros Wins 5-1; 3. Peesimistic Dick 50-1, 9 ran, rik, dist. (W McKeown, Newcastle). Total E200; E100, E140, E300. DF: E330. CSF: E881 2.50: 1. JUNE'S RIVER (Mr A Dampesy) 2-1 tor; 2. Fasean 4-1; 3. Jack Yests 12-1.7 ran. 7, 11/s. (Mrs M Reveley, Solitouri). Tole: 2260: \$180, 5200. DF: \$280. CSF: \$230. SSI. \$280. CSF: \$230. SSI. \$281. ON SID (P McGrath) 2-1; 2. Corporation Pop 8-11 tay; 3. Dante's Gleri 20-1, 10 ran. 11/s. \$6. [J O'Nell, Penderal Texts 1807]. Gleri 20-1 10 rpin. 11/4, 18 (J O'Nell, Pennith), Rote: E270; EUSQ, E100, E390, DF: E150, CSF: E381, 3.30: 1. SAD MAD SAD (P Niven) 4-8 tex; 2. Ardent Scout 9-4; 3. Hurst Phyer 7-1.5 rex. 11/6, 7 (Mrs. M Revelley, Sabtum), Tote: E150; E100, E280, DF: E200, CSF: E259, 4.00: 1. ALLERSECK (L. Cooper) 8-1; 2 febrand Fand Fancy 7-2 tex; 3. Irish Wildeard 4-1, 7 rex. 1, 10; (J Goldding, Cocleamouth), Tote: E1000; E3-40, E180, DF: E2720, CSF: E3100, 4.30: 1. THE NEXT WALTZ (R Supple) 7-4 fex; 2. Mester Wood 4-1; 3. Salters Strikeer 7-2. 8 rex. 1/4, 0. (L Lungo, Cerutherstown), Rote: E210; E150, E2:0, DF: E620, CSF: E802, S.00: 1. DENARIUS (Richard Guest) 4-1; 2.

2.10: 1. WELLSWOOD (M Molo) ID-1; 2. Tylo Steenher 7-2; 3. Corn Exchange 25-1.6 ran. 2, 13. (J Jefferson). Yote: £950: £3.30, £210 DF: £23.70. CSF: £35.50, NF: Smokey Robot 2.40: 1. EVER BILESSED (R Durwoody) 1-6 tex; 2. Coulân Loch 16-1; 3. Bredenthep-urple 50-1.5 ran. dist; 10. (Mrs. J Primeri). Rote: £120; £200, £200 DF: £750, CSF: £462 3.10: 1. BORIA BORIA (C Uswellyn) 11-5 far. 2. Beaule Black; 2-1; 3. Raining Blacker 5-2.8 ran. 3, 8 (N Twiston-Devies). Tota: £190; £150, £170, £270. DF: £750, CSF: £1487 3.40: 1. GET THE POINT (D Gallegher) 6-

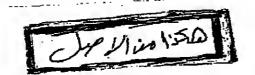
E130, E170, E270, DF: E700, CSF- F1467, 3.40: 1. GET THE POINT (D Galephur) 6-4 fov; 2. Werm Spell 9-2; 3. Walding Ind 100-30. 6 ran. sh ind, 8 (8 Gollings), 7045 E200; E130, E130, DF: E540, CSF- E6470, 4.10: 1. SCOTBY (8 Powell) 3-8: 2. Lancastrian Jet 4-7 fov; 3. Holy Swing 40-1. 4 ran. ds; 71 (8 Buckler), Tota: E280, DF: E4470, CSF: E282, 4.40: 1. AVOSTAR (hit B Polock) 7-4 for 3. Bally Riot 3-1; 3. Indian Crow 15-1.9 ran. 8.3%, (Mts Caroline Buley), Tota: E300; E18 E230, E270, DF: E320, CSF: E555, 5565, 5565, 10: 1. GOULDEN ROSE (C Murray) 10-1;

5.10: 1. GOLDEN ROSE (C Murray) 10-1; 2. Chopine Revolution 8-2; 3. Good Job 13-2. 10 nan. 1, 8%. (T McGovern) Toles \$1690; \$2.30, \$140, \$2.60, DF: \$100, CSF: Place 6: £3987. Place 5: £789. ■ At Carlisle yesterday, The Next Waltz scored his ninth win of the season. He has never been out of the first four in 15

starts this campaign. *THE INDEPENDENT **RACING SERVICES**

Jackpet: £2,454,50 Placepol: £2,20, Quedpot: £5,50, Place 6: £5,77, Place 5: £5,80,

0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS SANDOWN 971 981 982 972 HEREFORD 973 983 ALL COURSES RESULTS **0891 261 970**



Cabannes goes as Richmond sack 34

RICHMOND, THE Premiership One club plunged headlong into a financial crisis last week when Ashley Levett, their major investor, decided he had endured enough rugby politics to last him a lifetime, were had not hit the rocks with a fearyesh rday reeling from a savage round of job and salary cuts im- that notion on Wednesday night posed by the administration team charged with streamlin- from Buchler Phillips, one of ing the business. Three front- the United Kingdom's leading line players - Laurent insolvency specialists, ad-Cabannes, Dominic Chapman dressed the Richmond workand Adrian Davies - were force. They painted a grisly among 34 employees shown picture of a business in free-fall the door, while the rest of the and said serious sacrifices squad found themselves con- would have to be made simply templating wage reductions of to keep the ship affoat.

RUGBY UNION BY CHRIS HEWETT

lusion that one of England's pioneering professional clubs ful thump were disabused of when the administration team

As a result, 11 members of Anyone basking under the il- the playing and coaching staff

were made redundant, along ber of the administration team, proaching £8 million. Bitterly with 23 colleagues from the said the monthly wage bill had frustrated by interminable. with 23 colleagues from the ancillary departments. The casualties started at the very top: Cabannes, capped 49 times by France and one of the finest open-side flankers in world rugby during a heyday that extended well into the middle years of the decade, had been at the club only a matter of months after signing from Harlequins during the close season.

Chapman, capped by England last summer, and Davies, the former Wales outside-half. have struggled with injury this season but were considered integral parts of the Premier-

Lee Manning, a senior mem-

heen slashed from £230,000 to £120.000 "in line with income exnectations". He added: "The last few days have been extremely difficult and some tough decisions had to be made. We are confident that with these changes, the structure of the club will be attractive to potential new investors and that a successful Compa-

Levett, a multi-millionaire copper trader who now lives on the Continent, informed Richmond late last week that he was withdrawing his support after a three-year investment ap-

ny Voluntary Arrangement can

be achieved."

wrangling between the Premiership chibs, the Rugby Football Union and the organising body of the European Cup, he said he was unwilling to commit further funds to a game still unable to finalise an intelligible domestic structure.

Ironically, his move came within days of Richmond reaching the semi-finals of the Tetley's Bitter Cup by beating the favourites, Leicester, at the Madejski Stadium in Reading the venue they have rented since local councillors refused them permission to develop their more familiar home at the Athletic Ground in south-west structure a long-term strategy Africa. Assuming agreement is

club expect their biggest ever yond," he said. crowd for tomorrow's Premiership game with Bath:

Meanwhile, Newcastle unveiled their new board yesterday in the wake of Sir John Hall's decision to turn his back on rugby. David Thompson, the information technology tycoon who has bought the reigning Premiership champions and their Kingston Park ground for the grand total of £1, will act as chairman, with Paul Mackings as his chief executive and Rob Andrew as director of rugby. "I believe in the long-term viability of rugby, both in England and the north-east, and I intend to

London Equally ironically, the for the next five years and be-reached there will be no

On the international front, you might spare a thought for mid-summer, as a number of the poor bloody infantry. With club owners are urging. the World Cup, a newly expanded Six Nations Championship, a full hand of Premiership and knock-out fixtures and, in all probability a revamped European Cup, England's finest might reasonably have expected a millennial summer on the sun-lounger. Dream on. It emerged yester-day that Rugby Football Union officials were negotiating a twomatch trip to the southern hemisphere, including full-on Tests in Australia and South

prospect of the Premiership season being extended into

Any tour next summer would fly in the face of recent RFU policy; England's international brigade were granted a rest in both 1992 and 1996 following the '91 and '95 World Cups. However, the volume of Test rugby has exploded since the dawning of professionalism almost four years ago and with loose home-and-away agreements between England and both Australia and South Africa in force, there is every likelihood of further trips south of the

Nash's decision disturbs batting

at what used to be called Lancaster Park but now masquerades under the name of the Jade Stadium, the side winning the toss has opted to field first, seldom with the desired result.

Dion Nash broke the mould when he won the toss at the start of the second Test and will soon have regretted that he did not follow the contemporary fashion when New Zealand were bundled out for 168. Apart from some early movement which you would expect on the first day from almost any Test the howlers and New four and batted with composure Zealand foundered because of had batting. While Shaun New Zealand were 104 for 3. Pollock bowled well for four wickets, Allan Donald, who picked up three, was not the menace be usually is.

The standard of cricket was disappointing throughout the day and although New Zealand bave the built-in excuse that three of their principal batsmen - Stephen Fleming, their captain, Craig McMillan and Chris Cairns - are injured, they would have expected to have made a much better fist of it

Brian Young was bowled between bat and pad by Donald and after Roger Twose had dri-

BY HENRY BLOFELD

South Africa 54-0

ven without moving into line, New Zealand were 18 for 2. There were now some good strokes from Matt Horne and Nathan Astle before Horne drove at Jacques Kallis's secand was caught at second slip.

Gary Stead, in his first Test, until the hunch interval when Immediately afterwards, three wickets fell for 11 runs, all to poor strokes, and the innings never recovered in front of a

Astle square cut Donald without due care and attention and was caught at third man. Then, Chris Harris pushed with firm wrists at one which lifted and should have been left alone, while Gary Stead slashed without any footwork and was caught by the wicketkeeper. Mark Boucher, off Donald, who left the field in his 18th over with a slight stomach strain. Pollock and Paul Adams

then finished off the innings and South Africa were left with 24 overs to face before the close. Kirsten and Herschelle Gibbs remained in control during an excellent opening spell by Simon Doull, who had to go off in his sixth over with a strained ankle, limping uncomfortably from the field. Kirsten, who hit a commanding 35, including six boundaries, and Gibbs, who finished on 15, were not troubled later ond ball without any footwork as Nash gave all his bowlers a

SOUTH APRICA - First limings



Paul Adams celebrates the wicket of the New Zealand captain, Dion Nash, in Christchurch yesterday

Pitch at Sabina 'fit for Test'

SARINA PARK notorious as the only ground to have forced the abandonment of a Test match. will be ready for the second Test between Australia and the West Indies, the groundsman said. "We are on target for Saturday. We will not be having a repeat of that [abandonment] this time," Pat Gordon, a member of the Sabina staff, said.

Management said much has been done to prevent a repeat of the embarrassing spectacle against England last year, which saw the first Test halted after only 10.1 overs. Umpires ruled the pitch was not up to standard after several of the English batsmen were struck hy short-pitched deliv-

Three first-class matches have been played at Sabina Park since January, "The spinners got a lot out of [the pitch] In the Busta Cup matches and we are expecting the same for the Test," Gordon said.

The West Indies are still hoping to have their fast bowler Curtly Ambrose fit for the match, which starts in Kingston, Jamaica, tomorrow. Ambrose has been declared fit for his 86th Test despite suffering a knee strain in the crushing first Test defeat at Port of Spain, Trinidad but ... there are fears he may suffer

AYR

HYPERION 2.10 Red Hot Indian 2.45 Clady Boy 3.20 Vilprano 3.55 Harfdecent 4.25 Tha Odin Line 5.00 Mr Busby

GOING: Good (Good to Soft in places).

■ Left-hand galloping course. ■ Course is E of town on A758. Ayr rail station (service from) Im. ADMISSION: Club \$14; Grandstand \$7 (OAPs hadprice) CAR PARK: Free FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

M LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Revoley 26-143 (182%), L Lungo 23-176 (131%), J J O'Neill 20-124 (161%), P Montelith 18-139 (129°-L **LEADING JOCKEYS: A Dobbin 39-187 (209%). B Storey

26-164 (15.9%). P Niven 19-122 (15.6%), R Supple 17-95

FAVOURITES: 161-112 (391%).

2.10 LOCH DOON 'NH' MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,500 added 2m 5- BODEGA BAY (406) Mrs M Reveloy T 11 6 P Novem PO BROTHER BENTIE (13) D Robertson T 11 A Mr V Coogan (7)

n 3-353 SILLYMORE (11) (D) (SF) P Movech 6 n 3C McCestrack (3) - 11 declared - BETTING 5-2 Red Hot Indian, 3-1 Sélymon, 9-2 Planty Courage, 5-1 Bodega Bay, Panapared Gala, 13-2 Silver Hone, 30-1 others

FORM VERDICT

promise in bumpers taking on a couple who won bumpers but have proved only ordinary over hundles so lar, namely Red Hol Indian and Sillymore. The progressive PLENTY COURAGE is fit and in form – whereas Bodega Bey and Pempered Gale have been off for some time - and that entitles

2.45 ROYAL HIGHLAND FUSILIERS NOVICE CHASE (E) £4,000 added 2m 4f 1 320-P5 CASTLE CLEAR (174) (BF) Mrs M Reveloy 8 11 2 ...

P.3- LORD COOLFIGE (370) M Todiunter 8 11 2.

11 130-34 STORM CALL (20) (C) OWNSans 6 10 11 ______Nr J P McNawar (5)

BETTING: 4-1 Jessolle, 5-1 Castle Clear, Up For Rangome, 11-2 Forrest Tabe. 5-1 Clady Boy, 8-1 Lord Cookne, Palace Of Gold, 12-1 others FORM VERDICT

The trio who are making their chase debut all have the potential to make their motils in time, but it looks best to stick with those with plenty of racing experience. Jessolle and Palace Of Gold have to be teared if translating their hunding form to fences, but preference is for Insh raider CLADY BOY who is tackling much lesser opposition than when fourth or

3.20 JAMES BARCLAY H'CAP HURDLE

- 7 declared -Minimum weight: 10st, Tine hendrop weights: Fansillyr 9st 00s. BETTING: 9-4 Aztec Riyor, 7-2 Viliprano, 9-2 Pher Echo, Pfenning Geln, 6-1 Bernard Saven, 12-1 Shonara's Viey, 25-1 Panadilyr

FORM VERDICT

Most of these find winning difficult and are consequently not great punting meterial. Vilipramo deserves to get his head in front, but in a small field his lack of pace is a worry. AZTEC FLYER may not always look that resolute, but he has won tour. times on the Flat in the last two years and he showed at Cal-tenck last time that a race like this is within his capabilities. Planning Gain makes most appeal of the remainder.

3.55 ARTHUR CHALLENGE HANDICAP CHASE (D) £5,250 added 2m 4f 33F61 WEAVER GEORGE (11) (D) W Storey 9 12 1 5co. R McGrath \$2-4UP RACHARL'S OWEN (11) (CD BF) J Golde 9 10 11 ... A Dobbin 4052-P NUMAY (11) M Bernos 6 10 11 S Taylor

- 5 declared -BETTING: evene Haridecont, 9-4 Wayner George, 11-2 Feri Terrier, 13-2 Rechest's Owen, 25-1 Nilyany.

FORM VERDICT

On recent form the looks a match between Harfdecent and WEAVER GEORGE. The latter had today's other three nun-ners well beaten off when returning to form at Newcastle sat week and can run off a mark 3b lower here than he will from

4.25 AYRSHIRE AGRICULTURAL ASSOC.

US-450 BORDER GLORY (128) WM Scott 8 11 12 . Mr K Reymick (7) E2_RP EASTLANDS HAUGHT (MP) J Standby 10 11 12_Mr T Bromison (7)
P1H11- THE COIN LINE (200P) Mes J Purness 10 th 12_Mr 8 Gibson (3)

- 10 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Horseymen, 3-1 The Odin Line, 5-1 Piper O'Drawmond, All's Allini, 8-1 Hopies Delight, Poetic Intrigue, Spartes Breeze, 33-1 others

FORM VERDICT HOWAYMAN should be able to repeal test year's success in the event against marrly moderate opposition. He has the beat-ing of Piper O'Drumanond on last season's form and a big-ger threat may be THE ODIN LINE, who is partnered by promising amateur Bruce Gibson for the first time.

5.00 CAPABILITY SCOTLAND & SCOPE NOVICE H'CAP HURDLE (D) \$4,000 2m

- 7 doctured -Minimum: 10st. True Ir'cap weights, Jone Hobby Set 12b, Meschwisch Set 19b. BETTING: 7-4 file Busby, 7-2 filit O Mogic, 4-1 San Françisco, 9-2 West-em General, 7-1 Jone Holley, 33-1 others

FORM VERDICT WESTERN GENERAL may be able to build on last week's

Newcastle success. Any ease in the ground will not bother him, but it would be a worry for Jona Holley and Bit O Magic

Johnson has eye on clock

THE DOUBLE Olympic champion Michael Johnson issued a warning yesterday to sprinters who bave dominated the 200 metres in recent years. "I expect to be back at the top of my game this year," said Johnson who, because of nagging leg problems, has been unable to push his 200m time helow 20 seconds since 1996. That was the year he twice smashed the world record, the second time

"Certainly I can get back to the low 19s again," said Johnson from his training camp in Waco, Texas. "I don't doubt that at all I wasn't able to sprint the way I needed to the last couple of years. But now I'm back in shape and confident."

Confident enough that Johnson predicted a shake-up in the 200m world rankings, in which last year for the first time since 1989, he failed to gain top-10 status. "I hope to end the season ranked No 1," he said, noting that the world champion, Trinidad's Ato Boldon, and the Namibian Olympic Bilver medallist Frankie Fredericks would again be pressing him. The Texan also said that his

ATHLETICS

BY GENE CHERRY

quest for Butch Reynolds's 1988 400m world record of 43,29 had not ended. "The objective is to go out there and run faster than I ever have," said Johnson. who has led the world 400m rankings for an unparalleled eight consecutive years. "My PR (personal record) is

world record. If I run faster than my PR, I'm probably under the world record."

Africa this month, Johnson said kind of shape be was in 1995 and unprecedented victories in both the 200m and 400m at the World and the Atlanta Olympics. "Training has been excel-lent," be said. The hamstring

and Achilles problems, which slowed him in 1997 and prevented his participation in last appear under control. "I haven't had any problems

June," he added,

HEREFORD HYPERION

1.50 Angus 2.25 Distant Echo 3.00 Jollyhack 3.30 Tremendisto 4.05 Gratomi 4.40 Mr Dow Jones 5.10 Artic Ground GOING: Good to Saft.

#Right-hand course with 300yd run-in
#Course & N of city on A48 Hereford station im ADMISSION.
Club 73, Tattersalls \$10, Course Enclosure £5 Accompanied decylos free all enclosures. CAR PARK: Free FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

III LEADING TRAINERS. M Pipe 37-105 (352"-) N Twiston-Device

22:09 (202*), P Hobbs 14:77 (57*), K Balley 17:69 (138*), BLEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 32:105 (302*), C Uswallyn 22:00 (22*), R Johnson 12:15 (04*), R Durmoddy 11:37 (29*), M FAVOMRITES: 211-536 (394"-1 BLINKEREO FIRST YUNE: Ashrbox (3.00). Traketor (3.00). Another Chancer (visored, 510).

1.50 BONUSFILM NOVICE HURDLE (E) £3,500 added 2m 3f 110yds 21F1F4 AUGNA (PC2) (1811 J Tuch 8 C2 HORwar (5)
4 ANGUS (N2) (15) K Bailey 8 ft 2 N Williamson
4 SE MY JUDGE (97) Mide Y Williams 6 ft 2 C Mandre
70 BRYANGR (51) O Marray Paril 5 ft 2 D Callaghe
11 JULIO CAHER SOCIETY (JR8) J O'Shoo 7 ft 2 Michael Brennan 50 CHARWELL (21) his 5 Johnson 6 ft 2 13 HAPPY HUSSAR (10) H Day 6 ft 2 LANGERIN STRIKE Me. L MORANGE E 53 CHAINFELL (21) MS 3 LOVISE 12 A P McCoy

7 TO HAPPY HUSCE MS L Witerson 5 TI 2 S Wymne

9 060-P MRSTER CHIZZLEWT (18) S G Grétes 8 TI 2 MF J Linkes

10 1600- DODAS CHAPEL (430) D Cugsan 6 TI 2 MF J Linkes

10 1000- REFLECTING (18) 4 Junes TI 12 X Alzperu (3)

6. 01 LADY FOR LIFE (F100) R FINES 4 TI 3 M McCarthy

10 1000- REFLECTING (18) POTTON 1 TI 1 M MCCarthy

10 1000- REFLECTING (18) POTTON 1 TI 1 M MCCarthy

10 1000- REFLECTING (18) POTTON 1 TI 1 M MCCarthy

11 10 1000- REFLECTING (18) POTTON 1 TI 1 M MCCarthy

12 10 1000- REFLECTING (18) POTTON 1 TI 1 M MCCARTHY

13 10 1000- REFLECTING (18) POTTON 1 TI 1 M MCCARTHY

14 10 1000- REFLECTING (18) POTTON 1 TI 1 M MCCARTHY

15 POSTLIP GOLD (22) L GRISSON 4 TI 2 M TI 1 M MCCARTHY

16 MCCARTHY (18) POTTON 1 TI 1 M M TI 1 M T

FORM VERDICT

It is impossible to predict with any accuracy how most of the key contenders will perform on the duty, so this is not a race that makes much appeal as a betting medium. LADY FOR LIFE eats the standard on her Roccamman form and site gets the voto though Aldria, Anguia, Be My Judge. Deher Society and Happy Hussian are all interesting against her

2.25 TRIPLEPRINT NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m

0-3551 SOL MUSIC (8) (C) (D) J King 7 11 8 A P MisCoy 0-455 JACK (17) J Tuck 7 11 2 R Bellemy 3PQP ROSENCRANTZ (60) (0) Mas V Williams 7 11 2 . N Williams 7 15005 ROYAL RAPPORT (98) (0) J OShee 8 112 Michael Breman V

- 5 declared -BETTING: evens Distart Echo, 2-1 Sol Music, 9-2 Rosenç/antz, 10-1 Jack,

FORM VERDICT

DISTANT ECHO and Soi Music can both bowl along in from, so this should be a true test, and Distant Echo's credenticis are just the stronger Rosencrantz is a threat if back on song. but the ground may be softer than deal for him.

3.00 BONUSPHOTO NOVICE SELLING HURDLE (G) \$2,000 addad 2m 1f 344-00 MARSH MARIGOLD (7) G Ferro 5 ft 1 ... N WHILE 20F085 GUNNER SID (8) 6 Preece 8 TI O...... Mr H Ephgrave (7) P-PP30 KING ACRYLIC (ED) R Brometon 8 11 0 X Johnson 0000 MONTEZUMAS REVENCE (737) Mss A Sciel 11 11 C.R Belleny 0-0 PRINCESS OF HEARTS (190) A Red 5 10 9 ... C Moude 6 SPACE MOUSE (25) Mrs P Ford 8 10 9....... Mr Ni Frith (7) CG-TZD BRETECHE (FTD (9) (D) (BP) M Pos 4 O7_ ... A P McCby V O ASINBOX (7) B Mechan 4 108. M Ahem 8 4 JOLLYHACK (155) J O Shea 4 106 Michael Brennan FC MYSTERY MAN (17) P Bracky 4 108 . . L Corcoran (7) 5450 TRAKELOR (9) R Holinsheed 4 O 1 Gary Lyone 8

BETTING: 5-6 Breteche, 7-2 Marsh Marigold, 8-1 Jollybook, 10-1 Gus ner Sid, 12-1 Trakelor, 16-1 Space Mouse, Mystery Mars, 20-1 King Acrylic,

FORM VERDICT

An uninspiring selectivat will not take much withing. Brotoche has the abidy to win but is not one to rely on, and similar comments apply to Marsh Marigold who has gone off the bol. Asinbox is interesting, but preference is for GUNNER SID in the belief that a drop in detance will suit.

3.30 BONUSPRINT HANDICAP HURDLE (D) £5,000 added 2m 3f 110yds

Minimum weight. 10st True handisap weights: Sumbaye 8st 13tb. BETTING: 11-4 Tremendisto, 3-1 Hallom, 7-2 Shudlern, 7-1 Welter's Dream, 8-1 Ranger Slotine, 10-1 Shu Gas, lelend Vision, 33-1 Surabaya

FORM VERDICT Charlie Morlock has won with three of his last four numers and HALONA can maintain the sequence by conceding weight at round. Likely to be able to dictate attains from the front. she will have her burden decreased by Sam Stronge's 7to atlowance. She is expected to foil Shedlann, who is back on

4.05 DOUBLEPRINT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2m 114 PP MUSIC PLEASE (10) (CD) B Procco 7 to 10 Jan H Ephysiana (7) 2-436 FERHURINO (80) (D) P Rich 11 11 8...... M Griffons (5) 1611 P PLAY CAMES (45) (CD) R Lee 11 11 8 M Williamson 3FUEZ GRATOMI (74) (C) (D) (BP) P Fitzbers 9 T 2 ... A P McCoy 5372 SHADRACH (314) (D) Mrs H Mobby 8 O TO . OMOPINE (S)

- 8 declared • BETTING: 9-4 Gratorol, 4-1 Northern Saddler, Cool Spot, 13-2 Colonal Bizzor, 7-1 Play Games, 9-1 Shedrach, 10-1 Fernalico, 33-1 others

FORM VERDICT The booleng of Tony McCoy for GRATOMI can prove signifleant, since he is a horse who likes to dominate and this is a course where it pays to race prominently. Grationi produced good form in better-class events last year, he won here after e similar mid-season break (ast February, he won't mind softor ground it it have, and his trainer's course record reads well. Cool Sout a the one to feer most

4.40 BONUSPRINT HUNTER CHASE (H) \$2,000 added 3m if 110yds

PUFIF ARCHER (14) (CD) R Lows 11 12.4. Mir A Price (7) PG61 CHARMER'S WELL (25) (D) G Brown 11 12.4. Mir N Frithy (5) 2823/ EMERALD ROBORT (7029) R Hantey 9 2 0 July H Hantey (7) 33U6P GREWILLE AGAIN (277) (D) J Greucht 10 12 Olde A Window (7)

- 10 declared -BETTING: 2-1 life Dow Jones, 5-2 Charmer's Well, 7-2 Rusty Follow, 6-1 Archer, 10-1 Native Rambior, 20-1 Graville Agein, 33-1 others FORM VERDICT

ARCHER is proven over this course and distance and a re-peat of his winning form here in February could well be good snough. Charmen's Well is the obvious danger, but there is a doubt about what he actually achieved at Folkestone Imod

5.10 DOUBLEPRINT NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (F) £3,000 added 3m 2f

Passa ARTIC GROUND (26) P Vietber 7 ft 10 _______ A P MicCoy
202220 PENNYAHEI (71) S Brotishque 8 ft 5 ______ Mr G Late (7)
22-25 SEPTEMBER BREEZE (269) J OShee 8 ft 1 . Michael Bremen
54PP-0 GUERSLING (Ps) K Comertord 5 ft 0 ______ C Maude V
083P ELLIEWELLIEWOO (28) P Webber 6 ft 12 _____ A McCarthy

APP-0 DERING RULER (25) Mrs Front 9 00 O NoPhall (5)
 19 dectared Mrs. Weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Dening Ruler 9st 10th.

SETTING: 9-4 Artic Ground, 11-4 Pannyahal, 7-1 Ellewallin

FORM VERDICT

A bad race in which the probable favounts Artic Ground may be worth taking on, given a question mark about his stamina. It may pay to take a crismos on SPARIKLING BUCK returning to form after a change of scenery. A thorough stayer, she has had no chance in the races she has tackled this winter.

dropping it to a stunning 19.32 a 10th of a second away from the

> Preparing for two seasonopening 200m races in South he felt "on track" to be in the 1996 when he claimed Championships in Gothenburg

year's US Championships, since the beginning of last

Boogerd heads board

SANTIAGO BOTERO, of Colombia, yesterday won the fifth stage of the week-long Paris to Nice race. Botero, who rides for the Spanish Kelme team. crossed the line ahead of Michael Boogerd of the Netherlands to complete the 187km stage from Cusset to Firminy.

Boogerd, who rides for Rabobank, gained the overall lead after yesterday's leg. 16 seconds ahead of the Belgian Andrei Tchmil of the Lotto team. The race continues today with a 211km stage between Romans-sur-Isère and Sisteron.

Massimo Strazzer, of Italy, beat the pack in a sprint finish yesterday to win the second stage of the Tirreno-Adriatico race, a prelude to the Milan to

CYCLING

San Remo classic on 20 March that opens the World Cup circuit. The Latvian Romans Vainsteins, a second-year professional, was third and held on to his overall lead. The topranked Michele Bartoli, an Italian, was 14th and remained second to Vainsteins, five seconds behind.

Strazzer completed the mostly flat 178km north from Sorrento, near Naples, to Santa Maria Capua Vetere in 4hr 43min 15sec. However, be did oot do enough work to make up for his poor showing in the opening leg and stands 77th overall, 8min behind the

Merseyside on defence over Fowler furore Casting Graeme Le Saux as the innocent party has 1.50.2

innocent party has left Scousers seeing red. By Guy Hodgson

TO LISTEN to the radio stations think Graeme Le Saux in Merseyside these past 10 deserved the OBE for putting days you would think you were violence where it belongs, in a different country where values have become separated if Liverpool Echo. "From now not divorced from the rest of the UK. Alienation is the word.

The subject that bas levered Liverpool off the mainland and into the Irisb Sea is Robbie Fowler, who opinion formers bave cast as the called me a nancy boy.' indefensible since his childish spat with Graeme Le Saux two weekends ago. Well his own are defending him and doing so vig-

Not because they have any truck with Fowler's homophohic gestures at Le Saux - even drinkers in pubs in the streets surrounding Anfield where sympathy ought to run deepest found his behaviour unsavoury - but because they perceive the incident has been used as a convenient stick to whack the nation's favourite punchbag: the Scouser. A siege mentality is developing if it has not already erected walls and a

"Reading and hearing the

Chris Bascombe wrote in the on every time a player is insulted by another, a flying elbow should be meted out. And when the FA investigate the guilty party should hold up his hands and say, 'sorry, but he

"It should be put straight from the outset that what Fowler did was childish. No one could dispute that. Prejudice, in any form, is a particularly vile vice. However, for the FA to accuse him of misconduct when he has been the victim of a premeditated, and let's be honest here, underhand attack defies belief. Fowler's actions were the result of lack of thought, rather than prejudice."

That is the flavour of the mood and articulated less fluently almost to a man and woman by callers to local radio phone-ins. The gist being that Le Saux has won sympathy because he is middle class, intelligent and out of the main-



Stamford Bridge flashpoints: Robbie Fowler (left) shows his backside to Graeme Le Saux as the Chelsea man prepares to take a free-kick, and (right) Le Saux takes retribution against the Liverpool striker Reuters/Mirror

man crudely calling his sexuality into question is a Scally.

We do think we're being got at," one supporter said, tapping the torrent of grievance, "and, okay, maybe we've got chips on our shoulders but southern journalists like having a go.

simple as that."

Given that 35 years ago even some Mancunians tried to ape the Scouse accent made trendy by the Beatles, this is a massive turnaround in perception socially and culturally. Maybe it is payback time for when Liver- is rife. You can't deny that." An Ever- pool was as trendy as Carnaby

losophy. Most of all, they be- ton fan added: "If you're a Street or when the football club will say the media is against lieve, he has been lucky that the Scouser you're scum; it's as that carries the city's name dominated Europe. The feeling flourished with newspaper coverage of Hillsborough and was most gloating in Liverpool's decompounded by the Jamie Bulger murder, where the whole with the city. The view has alcity was made to feel guilty, so suspicion of journalistic motives

them," said Bascombe, who

also edits The Kop magazine.

"But people seem to be al-

cline. And the team is identified

most become 'Rohhie's a

Scouser so he must be a higot',

"Every club in the country Merseyside has its idiots and

this country."

Alan Edge, the author of Faith Of Our Fathers - Football As A Religion and a season ticket holder at Anfield, admits Scousers are raw-nerved but argues they have good reason when some of the cliches attached to Liverpool would be classed as racist if they were levelled at other communities. The Fowler incident, he believes, was jumped upon because it fitted the stereotype of the Scouser as the "anti-social, anti-bourgeois Scally".

"There are ancient shirs," he said, "which paint Liverpudlians as lazy, casual and thieving and more recent ones about us being mawkish and and whining. It does get up our noses, especially those of us who know these accusations could be levelled at anyone, any-

"The floodgates of criticism opened with Militant and since then we've had Heysel, Hillshorough, Jamie Bulger and widespread misrepresentation in the media painting a city in decline. There is a tendency among the media to target Scousers and there is also the compensatory tendency in the city to see offence where none

that if the two protagonists bad swapped roles Fowler would still have been cast as the: villain for cowardly elbowing La Saux Tornery Smith, the former Liverpool captain, subscribes to that view saying the controversy has escalated with more than a little hit of southern

He says a one-sided picture has been painted "of loutish behaviour on the part of the lad from the north against sheer frustration on the part of an unfortunate family man from the south.

"Le Saux has been cast as the innocent. Sneaking up be-hind an opponent and elbowing him in the back of the head is clearly an irrelevance when weighed up against the accusations against Fowler. It seems he should be hung, drawn and quartered with his head displayed on a spike at the Tower of London."

That is the voice of Mersey side calling and its echoes of alienation has implications that go heyond football, Just because you are paranoid, as the saying goes, it does not mean someone isn't trying to: get you - and Liverpool believes the knives are out.

Premiership struggle: Injury-plagued midfielder admits he was running short on patience as Forest continued to slide

Time for Stone to shed his troubles

STEVE STONE was unsure whether he should laugh or cry the other week as he returned lowing yet another in a long line of Premiership defeats. Seven days earlier he had endured the humiliation of playing for a Nottingham Forest side that conceded eight to Manchester United. This time, Forest had gone down 2-1 to West Ham at the City Ground.

His wife was there to greet him. Stone takes up the story. "The first thing she said was: 'Oh, not too had this week, then. You only got beat by two." I put my bead in my hands and said: You just don't know the right things to say to me, do you pet?' Later I had a chuckle about it. She was trying to be nice and upbeat, but it's pretty sad when even the wife's thinking losing 2-1 is a good result for

In such circumstances it was hardly surprising when Stone agreed vesterday to swap Forest's seemiogly doomed battle against relegation for a new career at the other end of the Premiership with Aston

Twelve years at one club is a long time for any player and, to use Stone's own phrase, life at Forest this season has been "pretty average". Despite his usually hubbly persona, and that he was recently presented with the Wilkinson Sword Preaward, Forest's plight had been getting to the former England

IAN

Blackpool Pleasure Beach proportions. Three broken legs and three relegations vied for his emotions with two promotions and a nine-cap international spell interrupted by a career-threatening knee injury that saw him out of action for 10 months, during which time Forest went down to the First

"You could say it's never quiet at Forest," he admitted. with a rueful smile. "I think once, just once, I've played for a Forest side that finished around 10th in the League. The rest of the time it's been either gunning for promotion or trying to fight off relegation. It should never have happened to a cluh like Forest, hut we

The writing was on the wall from the start of this season, at least as far as Stone was concerned. "For a while we could compete with the big clubs, but not any more. We became a selling cluh and everyone there, if they're honest, recognised the inevitable once we'd sold some of our best players.

"There have been a number especially towards the end of could recognise a lot of the play-

'For a time we could compete with the big clubs but not any more.' Steve Stone indicates why the chance to leave Forest for Aston Villa was so attractive became a yo-yo outfit."

> 'absolutely no chance'." Predictably, the arrival of Ron Atkinson was seen hy some to be the answer. Stone begs to differ. "Don't get me wrong about Ron. He's all right. He likes people to be bright and upbeat around the place, and he works hard on the basics. I knew he'd come in, change the team around a little and get a

few results. worker, especially with a group ers losing their self-belief. We'd of players who go 21 games In his time at Forest Stone be one down at half-time and without a win and are then goals in the run-up to the finals. and gave me a right good clip had a rollercoaster ride of the manager would tell us we asked to win something like Then injury struck, and Stone round the ear," Stone admits.

around the dressing-room, see our better players, and bought the expressions on the faces, a few more in as well, hut it's and I'd think to myself no use talking about that now. It's over If Forest don't start winning right now they're down, and could end up with the lowest points ever in the history of the Premiership. Now that would be massively embar-

> The previous lows experienced had at least taught him a lesson or two which, in Forest's current plight, had been put to good use. Back in 1996 Stone became a key member of England's Euro 96 squad, scoring a number of important

his own plans.

"It's fair to say I grew pretty desperate at the time," he recalls. "I knew we were going to be relegated and that I'd be returning as a Division One player. It got to the stage where I'd come to a Forest home game, sit in the bar with the players' wives, and not move all afternoon. I'd rather get steamed than watch the match. I began to wallow in my self-pity. It was awful at home because it just wasn't me."

Once again it took his wife to provide her own hrand of reality. "She just blew up one day

still had a chance and that we nine out of their remaining 18. could only watch from afar as "She told me to buck up. After should get stuck in. I'd look We should have kept some of his club plummeted along with that I did. It helps having three his club plummeted along with that I did. It helps having three kids as well. I've got a 10-yearold, a five-year-old and a 22month-old baby now, and you can't be too depressed at home,

"For a while it was touch and go whether I'd ever play football again. Only 50 per cent of players recover from the injury I had. So while losing this season and facing relegation has been bad, it's not as bad as it was when I was injured. At least I am paid very well for playing football. I get over losing a match much quicker than I

used to." Stone has also grown wiser When be renewed his contract being on the ball. with Forest be insisted on a

clause that allowed him to leave do in this game. I've never

His ambitions, to play for a successful Premiership club and to reclaim his England place, remain intact. Yesterday's move should guarantee the former and will do no harm to his chances of realising the

"You've got to be realistic," he says. "I still have massive belief in my own ability, but it's a great deal easier to play in a good team than a bad one, especially when you're on the right wing. I seem to have been chasing most of the time recently rather than actually

the club if they were to be rel- played in a cup final, and I really want to get hack into the England team, but you don't stand much chance if you play for a club staring relegation in the face. There are a lot of players who believe they should be playing for a better team than

they do.' After his 12 years of dedicated service to Forest, Stone can hardly be accused of being disloyal. Even without his departure, Forest were looking odds-on to be playing in the First Division next season. Stone, on the other hand, can look forward to realising the potential which once made him one of the Premiership's most

Taunton primed to turn the tables

folk who pay attention to events outside the Nationwide League, Taunton Town versus Tiverton Town is just about the higgest game in the season's calendar.

years has had a big influence on the outcome of the Screwfix Direct Western League title Tiverton four times in the past five years and by Taunton in

ence but, for geographical and financial reasons, they have been content with re- two sides meet at Taunton's ceded a penalty in the ninth if not better," the Somerset

BY RUPERT METCALF

gional football at a lower level until now, that is. Tiverton It is a fixture that in recent have applied for promotion to the Dr Martens League

If the Devon side do go up. race, which has been won by it will bring to an end their active rivalry with Tauntoo. The club from the Somerset county town left the Southern Both sides could probably League due to a lack of funds in 1983, and they do not feel

Tomorrow, though, when the

Wordsworth Drive ground, minute of second-half injury side's manager, Russell much more than league points time, Taunton were beaten in Musker, said. We can certainly and regional pride will be at extra time of the 1994 Vase compete." stake. The prize for the winners final by Diss Town, so their of two all-ticket semi-final legs bunger for success this year is a place in the final of the FA Carlsberg Vase at Wembley in May against either Bedlington Terriers or Thame United.

If Tiverton prevail after the second leg at their Ladysmead bome tomorrow week, it will be their third trip to Wembley. They lost the 1993 Vase final to Bridlington Town, but were victorious against Tow Law Town in the same event last

After leading until they con- we are at least equal with them,

may be greater. They have played second fiddle to Tivernow they feel they have the semi-finals.

After Tiverton's 2-1 defeat at have a 12-point lead at the top of the Western League over the champions and the Vase holders, and they have played one fewer game. "This year we feel

edge at last over their great

The ambition for Musker and his men is not just to reach Wembley but to make up for last season, when Taunton were ton in recent seasons, but besten by Tow Law in the Vase

"I've never been so disappointed in all my footbailing career," the former Bristol City Bridport on Tuesday, Taunton and Torquay United midfielder

"We lost to a side that nine times out of 10 we would have beaten. Everybody at the club was gutted."

This year, though, it could be Taunton's turn to smile.

Goals tell for England

ENGLAND UNDER-18 are in a who finish their programme Under-18 level, Matthew strong position to edge out the against Andorra, have a differhost nation, Spain, in their camence of +2. It means, for paign to qualify from their Euexample, that if England beat ropean Championship group.

England defeated Andorra 8-0 in their latest match in Rota on Wednesday, while Spain could only overcome Israel 2-0. That leaves England and Spain level on points at the top of the table after they bad

Platt and Nigel Spackman, shared a 1-1 draw on Monday. However, England have a far superior goal difference and that will be the deciding factor if the teams are still locked together after today's final round of matches. England,

scored four times in each half against Andorra, who fielded a young and inexperienced side. Goals from Scott Parker, Luke Chadwick, Darius Vassell and a Jamie Milligan penalty put England 4-0 up at half-time.

Norway next month.

After the interval, further goals followed from Ledley There is absolutely King, Joe Cole, his first at concern," he said.

England, coached by David

Etherington, plus another

penalty from Milligan. Fifa, the world governing Israel 3-0, then Spain will have body, has approved emergency to win by 10 clear goals to stop medical plans, including evac-England progressing into the uation, when Nigeria host the intermediate round against World Under-20 Championships next month. There have been increasing fears over the standard of the medical conditions that exist in the

West African state. Jack Warner, the Fifa vicepresident, insisted that the problems have been overstated. "I've been to Nigeria seven times altogether and I have examined every detail. There is absolutely no cause for



who will play Israel, have a goal difference of +8, while Spain,



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furore Yorke 'one of the greatest' says Zola

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He ways a me sided picture the best painted of long he haviour on the part of the from the north against she trustration on the part of a material of family man for

"Lat Saux has been cast a "Le Saux has been can a flie mose ent Sneaking up be hind an opponent and ebout hirst in the back of the head a hirst in the back of the head a clearly an irrelevance the wrighted up against the act sations against Fowler secons he should be him thrown and quartered with head displayed on a spike at to "herer of Lundon."

That is the voice of Mersy sub- cading and its eches (Blings alternation has emplications to go beyond football. Ju percause you are paranoid a the saying goes, it does a mean someone isn't bying per I you - and Liverpor in-layer. The knives are on

ontinued to slide

GIANFRANCO ZOLA yesterday hailed Dwight Yorke as one of the greatest strikers he had ever played against as Manchester United's record signing revealed that he had never doubted his ability to succeed at 'Id Trafford.

As he did so possibly the world's best striker issued a warning to Alex Ferguson's side ahead of next week's second leg of their Champions' League quarter-final tie with internazionale. Ronaldo announced to the Italian Press

BY MARK BRADLEY

turning from a long period on

the sidelines. Yorke took his tally for the season to 26 goals and United's to 100 in all competitions by matching his double strike against Inter Milan with two against Chelsea on Wednesday night that set up an FA Cup semi-final against Arsenal at Villa Park. Since moving from

Aston Villa last summer for

only the Premiership but also put him in the greatest cate-Europe to prove one of Alex Fergory. He's doing very well this creative forces. guson's shrewdest acquisitions.

The United manager believes that Yorke is the favourite for the coveted player of the season award and Zola, and his team-mate Roberto Di Matteo, were just as effusive in their possibly more subjective praise. Zola, voted player of the year in his first season in England, has lit up Serie A and the world stage for Italy, and clearly recognises immense talent when he sees it.

The former Italian interna-

season and has completed his game. Above all, he is in complete symphony with his team, that's a point which makes him

very effective."

For it is not just Yorke's goalscoring prowess, exemplified by his sublime 20-yard chip to secure victory at Stamford Bridge on Wednesday night. but his all-round game which impresses Zola. After losing the services of Eric Cantona, United have discovered a new tional said: "He's great, I would

"Im really impressed at the way he is playing. Apart from the goals, he is playing very well as he holds the ball at the right moment and allows the team to get up. He is very effective for his team," Zola said.

Di Matteo, an Italian incertainly one of the top strikers I've seen and I've seen some good strikers in my time. He's in great shape and is making the difference et the moment

scores, even when they're not playing well - and that's vital."

Yorke has taken the best part of 10 years to become an overnight success with the full range of his talents only now being fully recognised and appreciated following his move to Old Trafford. Some doubted ternational, added: "He's Ferguson's wisdom in spending so much on him but Yorke never once doubted his ability

to perform at the highest level With his ready smile as wide as ever the striker is relishing talent not only to inspire them for Manchester United. Give the chance to play on the biggest

his international career with Trinidad and Tobago means that he seems unlikely ever to grace the World Cup finals. "If I didn't think I could handle such a daunting prospect as going to

lighted with the way things have turned out," he said. The treble is now looking less of an impossible dream as United stand top of the Premiership, are 2-0 up from the first leg of their Champions' League quarter-final against

Manchester United I wouldn't

have come here but I'm de-

Cup semi-finals.

But as Inter form, Ronaldo awaits. He returned to action for 30 minutes of an Italian Cup semi-final, second leg at Parmu on Tuesday and said: "I feel great and am very happy to have made it back into the team."

He anticipates playing at least part of the game against United. "This team needs me and my goal now is to play in the derby and against Manchester United," he was quoted as saying in the daily Corriere deller

Derby hope **Borbokis** will face Liverpool

up the signing of Vas Borbokis from Sheffield United today.

Barray proposed swoop for overdraft of £1.3m and a lack of the transfer market. DERBY COUNTY expect to tie Compensation paid to their for-Jonathan Hunt, Robbie Kozhik and around 2500,000 heading to Bramall Lane, has dragged on since Tuesday. However, talks were continuing last night and the east Midlands club are hopeful the 30 year old will soon be a Derby player.

He needs to sign by noon to be eligible for tomorrow's Premiership match with Liverpool at Pride Park, though he may struggle to break into the County line-up after they beat Aston Villa 2-1 on Wednesday. A Derby skesman said: "Once we knew that we weren't going to get the player's signature in time for him to play against Aston Villa, the heat was taken out of the situation, Jim Smith is sitting down today finalising everything."

United's financial problems are well documented - they are about £6m in debt - and the sticking point is believed to be whether they can offer the Derby pair sufficient money to get them to drop down a division. Hunt, a midfielder, has already had a spell on loan with United earlier this season, while the England Under-21 wing-back. Kozluk, has been on the fringes of the first team for the past two seasons. .

glers Swindon Town have lost

sales in the transfer market have been blamed for the club trebling their losses from the previous year

The chairman, Rikki Hunt, said: "It's the way of the footballing world today, but we're not in as bad a position as Portsmouth, Oxford and Crystal Palace. The forecast is that we will have similar losses next year because the climate isn't changing. We're losing money because people aren't coming in, our lack of progress in the cups and the fact we can no longer rely on money generated from transfers."

The Swedish striker Martin Dahlin looks to be on his way back to Blackburn. Dahlin has been on loan at Hamburg SV but the German First Division club said yesterday he would be out of action for up to six weeks because of a back injury. The 30year-old Swede joined Hamburg last October on loan until the end of the season.

Hamburg have an option to sign him but are unlikely to do so as Dahlin has not scored a single goal and has often been left on the substitutes' bench. The Huddersfield chairman,

Malcolm Asquith, will step down from his post at the end The First Division strug- of the season Ian Ayre, managing director at the McAlpine If An in the last financial year. Stadium, will succeed him.



James keeps his Ryder distance

Farry deal a 'disgrace' say Celtic supporters

the reported £200,000 pay-out to the sacked Scottish Football Association chief executive, Jim Farry "a disgrace". Farry is believed to be close to agreeing a settlement with his former employers, who sacked him on Monday after he was found guilty of gross misconduct in his handling of Jorge Cadete's transfer to the Premier club. ..

News that Farry is to gain financially from his dismissal * sheen greeted with decision by the secretary of the Affiliation of Registered Celtic Supporters' Clubs, Mick Dinning, who cannot understand why Farry was not removed from Park Gardens without a penny for a "crime" he believes was born more out of incompetence than vindictiveness.

"It is an absolute disgrace if the guy is going to walk away with some cash in his hand, and most of the Celtic fans will think the same," Dinning said. "If I behaved like he has done

Contains Don Hutchison

DON HUTCHISON, the Everton : midfield player, has two and a - half years left on his present contract. Our report yesterday stating that his contract expires : this immer was incorrect.

CELTIC FANS have branded in myjob I would be sacked and that is it. I don't think he had anything particular against Celtic, but he made a mistake, then made it worse by trying to cover it up. Now it seems as though he will profit because the SFA want to keep him quiet."

Dinning praised the efforts of the Celtic chairman, Fergus Mc-Cann, whose unwillingness to let the matter drop finally resulted in Farry being shown the door. McCann claimed that Cadete's absence from vital games towards the end of the 1995-96 season cost the Parkhead club a chance of landing the Scottish League and Cup double. Instead, Celtic lost out to Rangers in both competitions.

"At the time, some fans were annoyed with Fergus because of the length of time it took to sign Cadete, but it now appears that it wasn't his fault," Dinning said. "If he hadn't carried on the fight all this would have been swept under the carpet and the whole thing would have just disappeared. You can't say it cost us anything specific because we lost other games apart from the ones Jorge was missing, but ob-

viously it didn't help." An SFA spokesman said yesterday: "Despite reports, a settlement has not yet been MARK JAMES, Europe's Ryder in Malaga

Cup captain, shot a five-underpar 67 in the first round of the Turespana Masters here yesterday to leave himself in a remarkable 12-way tie for second place. The leader was Switzerland's Paolo Quirici, who equalled the course record with round of a 65.

Quirici held a two-shot lead over a group of players that included Scotland's Gary Orr, Ian Garbutt and Roger Winchester The 31-year-old, who was once advised to give up the game after it was discovered heis diabetic, shot nine birdies on here over the Parador Del trast to the distinctly hands-on

BY PHIL CASEY

his way to equalling the course record of 65, set by England'a Gary Evans in 1992.

The local favourites also enjoyed a good day. Severiano Ballesteros shot a 71, Jose-Maria Olazabal a 72 and Sergio Garcia a 70. Miguel Angel Jimenez, the defending champion and a local resident, opened with a 69.

For James, the first round

Golf course provided a chance to observe at first hand the form of John Bickerton, one of the outsiders for the 12-man European team to face America in September.

However, James insisted he didnot ask to be paired with the in-form 29-year-old from Red-ditch, who finished second in the Portuguese Open last week. James, 45, revealed he could even deliberately avoid certain players who are in contention for a place in the European side to defend the Ryder Cup in Boston. This would be in conapproach edopted by Ballesteros, his predecessor as captain, before Valderrama in 1997.

"I'm not changing any draw the whole year," James said. "I play with one guy or other just by pure chance. I don't want to be found pushing players who are on the edge anyway. They don't need it. If I do ask for something I may go the other way and ask not to be paired with somebody because I don't

want to put pressure on them."

Any such pressure certainly did not seem to get to Bicker-ton, who has made the cut in all seven events so far this year. He

has recorded two top-10 fin-ishes, and lies 13th in the Ryder Cup standings. The Challenge Tour graduate continued his rich vein of form here with a first-round 68 but refused to

"I'm not thinking about the Ryder Cup yet," he insisted. "It's a long, long way off but it was good to play with Mark for the first time - he was very good company. We had the best of the conditions and we had to take advantage of that. It was a good effort, but a few chances

look too far ahead.

slipped by." One player almost certain to

be in Europe'e Ryder Cup side is Darren Clarke, although the 30-year-old's indifferent start to the year continued here. Clarke shot a one-over-par 73 and headed straight for the practice ground, where he worked on his swing with Derrick Cooper, who, incidentally, had a hole-in-one on

the sixth on his way to a 69. Clarke, who was playing only his eighth round of the year, said: "I made a few stupid errors, missed five greens and it cost me five shots. But I'm much happier now after four valuable hours on the practice ground."

Injury misery for Sidek

MALAYSIA'S WOES deepened at the All England Championships at the National Indoor Arena, Birmingham, yesterday when their leading player, Rashid Sidek, limped out of the second round.

Sidek was playing Eng-land's Peter Knowles, but he had to abandon the match because of a torn calf muscle at the end of the second game when the scores were level. It was the third set-back for Malaysia following the withdrawals of Ong Ewe Hock and Yong Hock Kin, ranked fifth

and sixth in the world However, it heralded good BADMINTON

news for the host country as an hour later Colin Haughton overcame Martin Delis, of Denmark, 15-4, 15-6 to put two English players into the third round of the men's singles for the first time since 1991.

Among those booking thirdround places were the Olympic champion Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen, who beat China's Xia Xuanze 15-11, 15-11, and the second seed Fung Permadi, of Taiwan, who overcame the Indonesian Ronny Agustinus.

In the women's tournament. the holder, Ye Zhaoying, of

China, started her defence with a comfortable 11-2, 11-5 victory over Kara Solmundson, of Canada.

England are down to the Commonwealth champions Simon Archer and Jo Goode in the mixed doubles. The fifth seeds beat the Danes Janek Roos and Helene Kirkegaard 15-13, 15-5 to set up a confrontation with Kim Dong Moon and Ra Kyung Min, who beat them in the World Grand Prix finals. The South Koreans put out

England's other top pair, Chris Hunt and Donna Kellogg, in the second round.

SPORTING DIGEST

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of

players allegedly attacked by police at a Brazilian football game. Officers mistook a Vasco player for a pitch invader and his team-mates were

hurt going to his aid.

Florida scandal

THE HEAD of the Florida state athletic commission has been fired for taking \$100,000 (approximately £64,000) from Don King and then trying to influence the rest of the regulatory board to help the boxing pro-

Governor Jeb Bush removed Morris "Mike" Scionti after Florida's inspector general determined there was a conflict of interest Commissioner Jack Guggino told investigators that Scienti approached King and other promoters asking for help with a foundation that purport-

outside-the-ring expenses such

BOXING as their education. King's \$100,000 gift was the only do-

nation to the foundation, the re-

port said. The inspector

general's report also found that

more than half the money went to the foundation's director. After the donation, Scionti advocated to the athletic commission that it reverse its policy of excluding long-term contracts between promoters and fighters, a change King sought, the report said.

Scionti "committed impropedly would help boxers pay for er and or unethical acts", Bush

(Aut) 1:30.15; 10 F Strobi (Aut) 1:30.28 Scandinger 1 Maier 516pts, 2 S Eberharter (Aut) 330; 3 Schifferer 262; 4 Mayer 252; 5 H Knauss (Aut) 233; 6 R Salzgeber (Aut) 212, 7 Kjoš 208; 9 Strobi 178; 9 K A Aarnott (Nor) 167.

TABLE TENNIS

ENGLISH OPEN (Potters Leisure Centre, Greet Marcoust) Mee's staging qualifying round second staget L theisther (Get) bit G Herbert (Eng) 21-17 21-11.
Women's alagies second staget N Debton (Eng) bit Meyerholes (Get) 18-21 22-20 21-15.

FIXTURES

Bristol Rovers v Fulham (7.45) ... UEPA UNDER-18 QUALIFYING CHAMPIONSHIP

Ny v Worksop. Shandhoff Index LEAGUE First Distribut Limerady Unit v Dungamon Suifes. FRI HAMP LAGGE MATIONAL LEAGUE Pression Distribut St Particl's Athletic v Bo-THE TIMES IS YOUTH CUP FIRE rounds

RUGBY LEAGUE

BASKETBALL

OTHER SPORTS NAA, Birminghom). lirminghom). Os Vaudtali Raily of Wales

RADMINTON

BAD MINTON

ALL ENGLAND CHAMP-TONESHIPS (Birmalinghum) Mean's stoppes second round: P Gate Cristenen (Der) by R Kidipe, (Ed) 15-15-6; S Bakeli (India) by J Fischer (Der) 15-9 15-15; P Machido (Lapan) by N Lestrant (F7) 15-5 7-15 15-8; J Haddissuma (Apan) by P Januan (Der) 6-15 15-10 15-8; B Santoso (India) by A Boesen (Deo) 15-2 15-7; I Wignam (Mal) by A Boesen (Deo) 15-2 15-7; I Wignam (India) by K Lenssen (Deo) 15-2 15-7; I Wignam (India) by K Lenssen (Deo) 15-2 15-7; I Wignam (India) by K Lenssen (Deo) 15-13 9-15 15-13; D Pabjeans (Net)) by B Fischer (Seo) 15-7
13-15-7; H Henckensen (India) by K Rangel (Den) 15-10 15-8; T Steel-Landsen (Den) by C Garry (De) 15-8; T Steel-Landsen (Den) by C Garry (De) 15-5; T Steel-Landsen (Den) by C Garry (De) 15-5; T Steel-Landsen (Den) by C Garry (De) 15-5; T P Le Poyer-Landsen (Den) by De) by K Steel (Mal) 12-15; T Hidayar (India) by P Be-Sang (Ror) 15-5; T-16; F Rermad (This) by K Roden (Mal) 12-15; T-16; F Rermad (This) by K Roden (Mal) 12-15; T-16; F Rermad (Den) by Mellon (This) by K Roden (This) by K Schmandson (Can) 11-2 11-1; Y Zhaoding (Ch) by K Schmandson (Can) 11-2 11-1; Y Zhaoding (Ch) by K Schmandson (Can) 11-2 11-1; C Schmandson (Ch) by L Diselentifies (Inden) 15-11 11-1; C Schmandson (Ch) by L Diselentifies (Inden) by K Mellon (This) by K Schmandson (Ch) by L Diselentifies (Inden) by K Mellon (This) by Mel

BASKETBALL

BIATHLON WORLD CHARFORNIPS (Oslo, Nor)
Women's 15km individual races 1 O
Zubrious (Ukr) 43min 28.15c; 2 C Niogret
(F7 +203.); 3 A Athenois (Rus) 3:13.0; 4
O Petrous (Ikr) 3:42.1; 5 A Volkova (Rus)
4:13.1; 6 M Forsberg (Swe) 4:23.5; 7 O Romatica (Rus) 4:33.5; 8 S Paramygana (Belg)
4:40.7; 9 U Disi (Ger) 4:44.8; 10 £ Dafosska (Bud) 4:45.9.

BOWLS Scotland continued the defence of their Home International Indoor Championship in Bournemouth yesterday with a comfortable 145-100

THE CRECIUSTER BYTERRARTIONAL TEST BATCH RIVENOS: 1 Australa 70pts; 2 Scoth Africa 56; 8 Poisterna 47; #4 Srt Lanta 46; India 46; 8 West India 43; 7 England 41; 8 New Zestand 33; 9 Zimbalove 76.

Henrey 77; J Angel 5-64) Western Australia 0-0; (Adelaide): Queensiand 239 (M Hay-der 77; P Wison 5-63) Souch Australia 19-1; (Hobart): Teomana 266 for 8 () Cox 128) New Souch Wales.

PARIS-SECE RACE Piths stope (187km) from Cassast to Familiay): 15 Botero (Col) Air 43min Sisset 2 M Boogerd (Nerh) same time; 3 M Wasters (Be) +225ec; 4 M den Baidser (Nerh) stope 5 G Figueros (II) 51. Others: 56 C Boardman (SB) 15:30. Overall standinger 1 Boogerd 20fr 27min 285ec; 2 A 7 Christ (Be) +16sec; 2 Maurers 0:24: 4 Baidser 0:25: 5 A Mercho (Be) 0:29. Others: 65 Boardman 26:23. Huddersfield have signed Kevin Dearden, the Brentford goalkeeper, on a free transfer as cover for Nico

Veesen, Wesnessan's Late Results: PA Cup Shot Round Replay: Creises 0 Man Utd 2. FA Carling Premiership: Biochum 1 Evernor 2: Derly 2 Asson Ville 1; Leeds 2 Rotterham 6; Notum Forst 1 Newcastle 2 Retornated League Second Desident Stoke 0 Restling 4, Scottist League First Dethioux Oydchank 1 Fakht 2. Press 8; Lornal High-land Leagues Cadvecutin 4 Parts Methanics 11: Notice 0; Potented 2 Cove Ranges 11: Notice 10; Covernation Bown 3 November 11: Covernation 6 Rivier David 11: Covery 2 Holyman 11: Covernation 6 Rivier 11: Covernation 11: Rosey 2 Holyman 11: Covernation 6 Rivier 11: Covernation 11: Covernation

GOLF

Britain's lain Pyman took the lead after the first round of the Kerrya Open yesterday with three birdles and an eagle in a 6-under par 65. TUSNER RENYA OPEN Lawing Bret round stores (68 or lef unlaws stateoff): 65 1 Pyman, J Alex Swe), 68 M Lafeber (Neth), C Larrain (Nen), R Eyraut (Fr), 67 L Alexandre (Fr), C Van der Veide (Nech), J Kondo (Ken), J Skold (Swe), 6 Hurcheon, 68 E Andersson (Swe), R Bain, A Barnett, A Butterfield, E Caribery (Swe), 5 Daniels (SA), S Dredge, M Elissson (Swe), J Hawksporth, B Lincoln (SA), O Lymn, 5 Mwanyerza (Ran), T Nietsen (Nor), J Okelo (Ken), 69 D Higgist, F Howley, S Hurd, P Jacobson (Swe), G Pietrobono (Ri), O Rojann (Ron), K Scoregastri (Den), N Wanhootegem (Bel), L Westerberg (Swe), Tustestyland, MASTIESE (Santalated, Malange) Lawing (Fry Toward scores (Six or britishes stated); 69 P Quick (Store of Michael (Swe), F Hoddson (Swe), F Lindgers (Swe), I Garbut, R Gostale, Jier, S M Tankly, J Brotego (So), R Winchester, M James, C Honell (Swe), F Jacobson (Swe), F Lindgers (Swe), O Smyth, M Phiner (So), MA Kardin (So), B Danie, M Olander (Swe), O Cooper, P Broothurs, D Gélford, M Scarpia (R), M Farry (Fr), MA Jimener (So), M Phiner (So), M Phiner (So), M Phiner (So), S Ibrance, V Philips, A McLardy (SA), P Fulle (Swe), D E Darro, P Linturt (Sp), C Roccion, N Cariba

ca (t.). "S Garcia (Sp). J Mellor, RM Singh (Ind). M Lanner (Swe). A Binaghi (h). C Roddes (Sp). M Mantz (Netn). A Wali, JM Canizares (Sp). S Field. R Bosalt, R Goosen (SA). V Casado (Sp). C Hainfine (US). R Karteon (Swe). R Chap-man. A Raltr ICE HOCKEY

NHL: Boston 2 Florida 0; Colorado 3 Wash-ington 2 (ot); New York Islanders 2 Philade-phia 2 (ot); New Jersey 3 Phistourph 2; Yoronto 6 Tampa Bay 1; Calgary 7 St. Louis 4; Los Angeles A Detroit 2; San Jose 4 Phonoine 2 RUGBY UNION

Scotland Under-18s made a winning start to their three-match tour of Spain yesterday, beating Spain Under-20 30-8 in Madrid.

SKIING Deborah Compagnoni, the triple Olympic champion from Italy, has called a press conference for to-morrow where she is expected to

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England v Israel (4.30) (at Rota, Sp) UNBOAD LEAGUE Premier Dhilotes Em-

Oil Sem v Barrow (7.45)

NEBA: Charlosse 105 Boston 87; Netwacker 87 New York, 88; Minnesona 85 Seattle 84; Chicago 103 New Jersey 87; Procent 103 Dal-les 91; Houston 84 Derwer 75; Unit 86 Ceve-tand 75; Protand 103 Sacramenta 98; Galden State 92 Vancouver 82; LA Lakers 103 LA Cap-pers 99.

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Feyerbord wire on golder good rely). German
Cap Sami-Amak Norder 1. Benick Cap Quarbas-drait Foyer Court 2. Vizzase Arthern 1 (Der,
Feyerbord wire on golder good rely). German
Cap Sami-Amak Norder 1. Benick Cap Quarbas-drait Foyer Court 2. Vizzase Arthern 1 (Der,
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Ac (Lasmrobourg): Line

WORLD CUP (Shorra Newada, Sp)
Mea's super-G: 1 C Mayer (Aur) 1mn
28.71 sec; 2 A Schilferr (Aur) 1:29.06; 3
1 Sarbh (Aur) 1:29.53; A L Khus (Nor)
1:29.54; 5 S Locher (Swit) 1:29.79; 6 F
Nyberg (Swit) 1:29.58; 7 H Maher (Aur)
1:29.95; 8 J Kobbr (Sto) 1:29.97; 9 B Raich

NEMSWEEK CHAMPHONS CUP (Indian Welle, Call?) Mear's shagles second round: M Rios (Calle) by C Proline (Fr) 7-6 G-1. K Malisse (Bel) by G Proline (Fr) 7-6 G-1. K Malisse (Bel) by G Proline (Fr) 7-6 G-3. K Rucers (Stonak) by L Hewitr (Jun) 7-5 G-3. J Stemerink (Neth) to F Medigeril (Br) 6-4-2-6 G-4; C Woodruff (US) by P Haarbus; Neth) 7-8 G-3; M Safin (Rus) by J Gimetstob (US) 6-2 7-6; F Manellia (Sp) by P Sampras (US) 6-2 7-6; F Manellia (Sp) by D Sampras (US) 7-6 G-4; M Philippoussis (Aus) by A Cornet-18 (Sp) 6-2 3-6 7-6; G Rusedsia (GB) by S Draper (Aus) G-3 G-3; R Krajkeck (Neth) by J-M Gambai (US) 6-7 7-5 7-5

BITTLE EVERT CUP (Indian Wells, Call?) Woomen's altagles quarrow-Ranits S Festud (Fr) by J Nagyona (Slovak) 6-1 G-3; C Rubin (US) by M Hugs (Smit) 6-3 7-6; S G-4 (Ger) by J Novotna (Cz Rep) 6-2 G-0; 5 Williams (US) by M Hugs (Smit) 6-3 7-6.



Friday 12 March 1999

THE INDEPENDENT

HOLYFIELD PREACHES VICTORY P26 CABANNES SHOWN THE DOOR P29

Stone rolls Villa's way for £5.5m

JOHN GREGORY took his transfer outlay towards the £30m mark in barely 12 months as Aston Villa manager last night when he paid Nottingham Forest £5.5m for Steve Stone.

But Gregory's interest in further bolstering his midfield with George Boateng's combative talents has led to Coventry City reporting Villa to the Football Association for allegedly making an illegal ap-proach to the Dutchman via his former team-mate Dion Dublin.

After concluding the Stone deal, the Villa manager said: "I'm delighted to have got Steve for our last 10 games, and I

BY PHIL SHAW

can play in any position across the middle. It's a situation we've monitored for a long time and 1 thought me might have to wait until the sum-

Stone, who won nine England caps during Terry Venables' reign, has exchanged seemingly certain relegation with Forest for Villa's attempt to halt a run of one point from six matches, which has taken them from the Premiership summit to fifth place. He spent hope he's going to help to turn 12 years in the east Midlands our season round. He's quick, after arriving as a teenager durgets around the park well and ing the Brian Clough era, mak-

ing his final appearance in Wednesday's defeat by New-Villa originally tried to offload

Stan Collymore to Forest in part-exchange for Stone, but the controversial striker, who is under treatment for clinical depression, would not return to the City Ground. The 27-yearold Stone, whose contract with Villa takes him through to the summer of 2003, follows Dublin (£5.75m), Paul Merson (£6.75m), Alan Thompson (£4.5m) and Steve Watson (£4.2m) - the latter duo heing fellow Geordies - as the major signings since Gregory arrived

in February last year. Gregory, who recouped

his lack of squad depth exposed by injuries and illness during Villa's recent poor run of form. A £45m offer for Alan Stubbs was turned down by Celtic, while he has not followed up his

interest in Bradford's Robbie

Blake with a bid. Villa were, however, successful in landing Cardiff's Mark Delaney for £500,000 this week. While the rookie right back will not be risked against David Ginola at Tottenham tomorrow, Stone will make his debut as Gregory seeks to ensure that his team do not

miss out on a Uefa Cup place. Gregory refused to com-£12.6m in one transfer alone ment on claims by the Covening Boateng stolen from us or

when Dwight Yorke defected to try chairman, Bryan Richard-unsettled hy any other club."

Manchester United, has seen son, that Dublin, the Sky Blues' Coventry contend that only former captain, may have been used to sound out the Earn-rated Boateng about a possible move to Villa Park.

Richardson said: "We have clear evidence of an illegal approach to Boateng and his ent on behalf of John Gregory and Aston Villa. We have reported Villa to the FA and the Premier League for a clear breach of all the rules, and a clearly illegal approach to the player with a view to unsettling him - which they have.

"Villa have shown a total disregard for FA rules and we intend to pursue the matter most vigorously. I am not hav-

Coventry contend that only after Villa's alleged approach did Gregory contact his opposite number, Gordon Strachan, who told him Boateng was not for sale. The Villa chairman, Doug Ellis, is then said to have phoned Richardson with an offer which was also rejected,

contact either the player or his advisor Strachan said Villa's interest

had turned Boateng, a £250,000 capture from Feyenourd, from "a very happy young man" to one who was "confused". But he said he had been "absolutely excellent" in training and would play in the home game against Blackburn tomorrow.

and Villa were warned not to

keeper Mark Bosnich last night told how Stan Collymore's Aston Villa team-mates were kept in the dark over the troubled striker's off-field problems. Collymore's depression,

round FA Cup tie in January. Bosnich said the players asked for information about Collymore's problems - "but it

was not forthcoming." "He [Collymore] could have told us and he wanted to talk to us, but he was under instructions not to. He told us all he has a certain problem and he didn't want to discuss it further and that was the end of the matter.

Meanwhile, Villa's goal- The boys on the whole appreciated that," Bosnich said.

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Collymore's off-field problems have coincided with a dramatic slump in form for Villa who have declined from championship hopefuls to fifth which has been treated at a place having taken one point clinic, came to light when Villa from 18.

played Fulham in a fourth BSkyB should know by April 13 if they can take over Manchester United. That is the latest date by which the Department of Trade and Innopolies and Mergers Commission investigation the takeover. The MMC will submit their conclusions to the DTI today, which then has 20 working days to publish the report. Stone sheds troubles, page 30

Fowler writes to Le Saux

ROBBIE FOWLER has released By MARK PIERSON the contents of a "private" letter written to Graeme Le Saux Footballers' Association, had aimed at ending the rumbling dispute over their running feud when Liverpool visited Stam-

ford Bridge on 27 February. Le Saux was caught by television elbowing Fowler in the back of the head following an angry confrontation between the pair during which the Liverpool striker made offensive gestures towards his England colleague. The Football Association has since charged both players with misconduct.

Fowler has been condemned for his actions, and yesterday sought to defuse the situation by issuing a copy of a letter from him that was delivered to Stamford Bridge earlier in the day. However, under clear legal advice he has been careful not to admit to wrong-doing and again uses the term "misintermade the same claim in a statement last Friday after receiving Le Saux's letter of apology.

Le Saux sent his letter to Fowler, and the contents of that have not been made public. Now Fowler clearly wants his version of the incident out in the open before the FA hearing, and he released it through his solicitor, Kevin Dooley.

Graham Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional

expressed his wish to see a more extensive response from Fowler than he produced last Friday after Le Saux's public apology and his own private letter to the England striker.

Le Saux's advisors had said they wanted to scrutinise the contents of any letter of apology from Fowler before giving it their seal of approval.

Fowler's letter, beginning "Dear Graeme" and addresse to Le Saux, c/o Chelsea FC. Stamford Bridge, Fulham Road, Chelsea, London, said:

"I am in receipt of your without prejudice letter about what occurred on Saturday, 27 February at Stamford Bridge.

"I am sorry if you misinterpreted my actions during the game, which were not meant to cause any offence to yourself or preted" in the letter, having anyone else. Hopefully this unhappy incident can now be

"I am sure you share my hope that when we play together again either on opposite sides or on international duty people have no reason to judge us other than on our footballing

Best wishes, R Fowler."

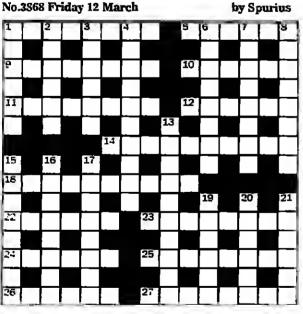
Merseyside on the



defensive, page 30 Pete Sampras hits a backhand return during his second-round defeat by the Spaniard Felix Mantilla in the Newsweek Champions Cup in Indian Wells

Allsport

THE FRIDAY CROSSWORD



ACROSS Fly home by way of Luxembourg in the dark? Absolutely! (3-5) No time for articles

about desert plants or tropical shrub (6) initially eery? (8) 10 Old woman sitting between pupils in exam (1-5)

11 Subjects identified by some of the Belgian people (8) 12 Worry about queen's

trained polecat (6) 14 Lump in throat from taking another look at

Papa's medal (5,5) 18 Vehicle trundling along the Strand (5,5) 22 Big drink causing tippler

with the state of the state of



no way out (3-2-3) Lots of whitewash to lose heart, maybe? (6) 7 vessels (5-3)

Time a musician nervous (8) chaps invading a grouse- 13 Description of something you fancy? (10)

giving school pupil an advantage (6) 27 Fresh representation of of Venetian church (8) English river in No half measures - ogle coloured frame? (4-4) DOWN Manipulate and stir

Back issues available from Historic Newspapers, 01988

broken leg (6) Rug for the top storey (6) 20 French article about being a tenant (6) I end up unexpectedly in unruly adolescent, it's committee producing

23 Stolen biscuits originally

seen in picture (8) 24 Hard to get into dirty

25 Structural support for

26 Means of transport

craft (6)

book of useful hints (10) Accused left in a pickle deliveries in small open

will be about to appear Drops of water (3-5) Inconsistency in vocal rendition within confines

husband shamelessly after finding out how (5,3) 19 Being unenthusiastic, in a way, and starting to yawn? (61 Hearty shout will engage attention mostly (6) Way to confront an

Published by Independent Newspapers (UK) Limited, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E1450L, and printed at Mirror

Henman fends off Rusedski

TIM HENMAN recorded his fourth victory in six encounters with his fellow Briton when he beat Greg Rusedski 6-4, 2-6, 6-4 in the quarter-finals of the Champions Cup here yesterday. It was not exactly pistols at dawn, but Britain's top two seemed a lonely pair as the match began on a chilly, cloudy, desert morning, with spectators still drifting into the Centre centration on both sides of the net, however, that Henman and Rusedski probably would have

heen oblivious even if the stands had been packed. Their rivalry has raised British interest in the sport so much in the past four years that it was hard to imagine that this Two of the previous encounters were purely domestic affairs, with Henman defeating the Ca-nadian-born Rusedski in the final of the National Championships at Telford in 1995 and

Henman, the world No 7, would also argue that he was unable to match Rusedski's spirit in their last match, in the concluding round robin of at the ATP Tour Championship in Hanover last November, because he had already qualified to play the Spaniard Carlos Moya in the semi-finals. Rusedski, a substitute at the feast, cagerly accepted a straight-sets win worth enough points to enable him to end the season in

Serving being crucial to both players, it was interesting yesTENNIS

BY DERRICK WHYTE in Indian Wells, California

terday to see who would settle into a smooth rhythm first. It proved to be neither. Rusedski was broken in the opening game, after Henman's mishit backhand found a line on the second break point, and Rusedski capitalised on his opponent's loose first serve in the second game. Henman did not produce a first serve until trailing 0-40. He won the next point, but then hit a backhand long.

Although Henman continued to search for consistency on his first serve, Rusedski was unabla to punish him as much as was only their sixth meeting. he would have hoped in the first set. Indeed, not a single ace came from Rusedski's racket during the opening period, in which he double-faulted three

Rusedski managed to save two break points at 3-3, but was unable to deny Henman in the ninth game. The umpire overruled when Rusedski's backhand volley to the corner was called out on the first set point, at 30-40. A double-fault gave Henman a second opportunity, and the Oxford man's return of serve caused Rusedski to dump a half volley into the net after 41 minutes. Rusedski won the second set

with surprising ease, 6-2, but the deciding set proved to be a close encounter before Henman ran out the eventual winner.

be facing in either the semi-final or the final is Pete Sampras, who lost here on Wednesday night to the Spaniard, Felix Mantilla The American shrugged off the threat to his world No 1 ranking, but he could not shrug off another early exit in this tournament. "I'm going to take this hard." Sampras said after a three-set defeat in the second round. "I don't like losing and playing the

way I did tonight." Sampras made 54 unforced errors, including a double fault. ou match point. He hlamed a lack of matches this year, but was quick to say that was not enough of an excuse. "It's not the way I wanted to play here." he said. "I really felt this was a good year for me to do well."

Sampras was playing in just his third tournament of the year, after missing the Australian hard court season. He played at San Jose in February, hut withdrew before his semifinal match with a leg injury suffered in the quarter-finals. Last week in Scottsdale, he won one match and lost in the second round to Jan-Michael Gambill "Not having played many matches this year, you can't just try to find your form," he said.

Two unseeded Americans, Chanda Rubin and Serena Williams, played giant-killers at. the Evert Cup, the women's tournament being staged here alongside the men's event. Rubin beat the top seed and defending champion, Martina Hingis, 6-3 7-6, while Williams One player Henman will not beat Mary Pierce 7-5 7-6.

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THE INDEPENDENT

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Stone sheds troubles in

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must, as unkempt, uncouth and resolutely uncool. Insist, if you like, that his music should remain unplugged. But give the man his due: he outlived punk, survived Paula and has now pocketed millions from Planet 24...

Dismiss him, if you



all is forgiven

he British, it is said, are a nation of begrudgers. Nothing breeds resentment in our hearts so much as the success of one of our peers. And nothing gives us sneaky, shameful pleasure more than the stumble of a big figure. Boh Geldof, I suspect, gives the lie to this. But then the shambling, unkempt character who has just, at last, managed to make himself a multimillionaire with the £5m he will get from the sale of his share of the TV company Planet 24, has always managed to fail quite to fit any of the moulds into which people have attempted to cram him.

He was always too intelligent to he a visceral punk rocker, too retuctant a campaigner to commit his life to the Third World, too undisciplined and free-thinking to be a politician, too chaotic to run the businesses he launched, too much of a butterfly to finish making the film he scripted when it ran into funding problems, and too raw and restricted musically to make the transition to pop superstar, which is the only thing he would really like to have been. But in all these limitations lie his strengths.

Bob Geldof is the model of the flawed postmodern hero. Like Diana, Princess of Wales, he is a blundering mixture of vulnerability and selfabsorption - caught on the tide of change, victire of the ephemerality of pop music and shot the sugh with the pain of a messy divorce.
In the old days the ultimate test of someone's

character was, they said, to ask: "Is this a man you'd be happy to go into the jungle with?" Bob is not the kind of man, on first consideration, that you would want to meet there. I can't speak at first hand about the jungle, but I have been across the desert with him - from the vast, shifting reaches of the sands around Timbuctoo and the arid uplands of the Abyssinian high plateau when, soon after Live Aid smashed all records for international fundraising, we journeyed through the Sahei to decide how and where the Band Aid millions should be spent.

He shambled across Africa, from the west (he took no hat, and wouldn't drink enough water)

Chad. And yet, for all his incompetence at the practicalities of life in the rough, you could not have hoped for a better person with whom to be enjungled. Everywhere he went he raised the morale of the local people and aid workers and, by his unique combination of ill-tempered impatience and a disarming charm, somehow always got others to do the things he would have been so incapable of doing himself.

It is a measure of the preposterousness of his achievement that a figure who was, in his early career, accorded the unheroic status of pop's uncouthest loud-mouth was to he dubbed by the nation both a Sir and a saint - after having been borne shoulder-high by no lesser figures than Paul McCartney and Pete Townshend across the Wembley stage before the biggest audience the world had ever seen.

The incongruity was constant. When we arrived at the palace of the head of state in Sudan, the president stepped forward to present the medal and sash of the Order of the Two Niles. But he tried to pin it on me, since I was the only one in the party wearing a suit, albeit one of the recorder for hour after hour, and with me

the whopping home phone bill that resulted, refusing even to pay for a cup of coffee out of Band Aid funds. In modern usage, a saint has to be an all-round holy character. But, by the definition of the Church that makes them, a saint is defined by "heroic virtue" - some massive quality which, as time passes, blots out the memory of his or her human frailty and turns the person into a symbol of some overpowering goodness. Perhaps Bob may qualify one day.

But it is key to his character, too, that, where others might have turned themselves into fulltime advocates for the Third World after Live Aid. seeking a role with Unicef or some such, Geldof decided that he had done enough. It was someone else's turn. He wanted to go back to music.

Yet he was shrewd enough - when a publisher friend asked how much he might make from cut-ting a record - to switch tack. Around a quarter of a million, with a bit of luck, Geldof had responded, only to be told that he could make double that from his autobiography. We sat down to write it, with Geldof talking into my tape-

BY PAUL VALLELY

tropical variety. He could not believe his eyes when I declined and directed him to the wildhaired, unshaven figure at my side, resplendent in a wrongly buttoned, never-ironed white shirt, torn black jeans, and shoes resembling those worn by tramps in Ealing comedies. Geldof was never quite what people expected. In a world of icons, he was disconcertingly real.

It was this, of course, which was his greatest strength. It was what enabled him, as he put it, "to make compassion hip". The very quality that earned him notoriety as a loud-mouth was what also enabled him to hold his own against prime minister Thatcher - becoming on camera, to the delight of the nation, the only person ever to contradict the Iron Lady twice, to her face, in public. And he did so with evident intelligence behind the passion and aggression.

Geldof became just what we ought to expect coast to the east, inappropriately dressed and shod, developing headaches from dehydration merely that he gave over to Live Aid more than two years of his life, during which he didn't earn and a septic toe - an injury he made worse by a penny. Nor that, in that time, he insisted on * Inpromptu self-surgery in a filthy hotel in paying from his rapidly depleting bank account

shaping the resulting conversations into a book. It was a revealing process, as much for what got left out as for what went in. On the tapes he was ruthlessly frank. He spoke with particular vituperation about his father, whose job as a travelling salesman had forced him to leave Geldof and his two older sisters alone much of the time, after the death of their mother before the boy was 10. But he insisted I should talk to his relatives to check his recall. "Don't let him be too hard on his father, it will break his dad's heart." I was told by his Aunt Fift, after whom Geldof named his eldest child. "No, he was a bastard, put it all in," said the angry young man. I ignored him and toned it down. Interestingly, when he read even that, he toned it down further

He self-censored other sections of my manuscript which he thought might upset his wife, Paula. "Better not put that bit in. Paula might not like that," he said, of sections which many spouses would have considered innocuous. Throughout the months we were writing, Paula's peculiar presence hovered. Geldof was infatuatedly in love with her. He found endearing be-

cern. She engaged, in my presence, in wild fantastical role-playing, for weeks on end acting the role of a perfect Fifties mother from Enid Blyton, then becoming a thumb-sucking Take That fan, sitting all day on the sofa, singing along to

the band's videos and refusing to speak.

Her behaviour became increasingly odd in the run-up to her affair with the INXS singer Michael Hutchence, culminating in a divorce petition which contained claims that hurt Bob deeply. He said nothing in public, and maintained that dignified silence even after Hutchence's suicide and a series of wild statements that were made about the dead man's final phone call - to Geldof - shortly before he hanged himself in an Australian hotel room. Geldof has not behaved perfectly, but he has behaved as well as most of us could have hoped to in such a messy situation. He keeps trying. He moves on.

Like most of us, however - and unlike many in the ranks of millionaire businessmen he has now joined - he moves existentially from one thing to another without any great plan. Just as he launched the Boomtown Rats in the Seventies because he did not like much of the music he heard on the radio, he launched Planet 24 in 1992 because he didn't like the laced-up style of most of the TV programmes he was watching. (Though he was canny enough to do so by merging his company, Planet Pictures, with 24 Hour productions, run by Charlie Parsons and Waheed Alli who between them, combined creative and business acumen to match Geldof's talent for spinning off ideas he did not have the stamina to carry through.) So now he is talking of launching an Internet holiday company, not out of some shrewd business sense, but simply because he couldn't find one last year when he wanted to take his kids on holiday to Florida. The secret of his success lies chiefly in his hunch that what he wants, others will want too.

The hunch is not infallible, Doubtless he will also return to the recording studio to make yet another attempt to reinvent himself as a pop musician, in the way his heroes such as Eiton John and Phil Collins constantly do. For Bob Geldof, the last thing is never enough. He always keeps asking the question we used for the title of his book: Is That It? It's a question we all ask, which is why, I suspect, in this age of uncertainty, Geldof remains our stubbled Everyman.

GARNET POINT



From the edge of the New World,

Science

Listings <u>Radio</u> Satellite TV Today's TV

Budget motoring

Sir: At last, road tax banding according to engine size, but why atop at one band? Surely at least four bands would be more appropriate, with a sharp rise for those who like to feel four litres or more under their bonnets.

I would also recommend to the Chancellor a special high-rate selfishness band for those fourwheel-drive owners registered to city addresses. Their cars not only emit their exhaust fumes at a height which is more readily breathed in by pedestrians, but also obscure the vision of all those car drivers who are stuck behind them

KITTY R STARKIE Ulverston, Cumbria

Sir: As I fill up with petrol at £3.50 a gallon in the Highlands of Scotland, who do I complain to? It is only £1.80 a gallon in Greece, £1 a gallon in Canada, and 65p a gallon in the USA.

The latest fuel tax rise in the Budget is a disgrace. It penalises every rural resident and business, rich and poor, who rely on motor transport. No doubt increased fuel transport costs will be cited as a reason the next time the petrol companies put the prices up. HAMISH MITCHELL Crovie, Bunffshire

Sir, In a country which offers its wealth-creators a derisory minimum wage at under £4 per hour and in which companies stoop so low as to offer as little as £10,000 for a full time joh in far too many sectors, you do not make more people use public transport by making car use more expensive, but by making the. already far too expensive public transport much cheaper. MICHAEL WRIST Ely, Cambridgeshire

Ritalin children

Sir: I read with interest the review of Richard DeGrandpre's Ritalin Nation (5 March). As an educator I am aware that there appear to be children whose behaviour is problematical to their parents, their schools and themselves and for which there appears to be no extraneous reason, such as stressful life events or unwise child-rearing practices. Some such children do appear to be helped by Ritalin and It can indeed, in some cases, effect a radical change within a short time.

Of grave concern to many teachers however is that Ritalin may be being prescribed much too freely and without sufficient followup. Some children have led lives so full of events which are stressful or painful to them and so lacking in parental care and control that it would be strange if their behaviour were not affected: Ritalin will not solve their problems.

Doctors may need to be aware that there are parents who take a cavalier attitude to medication and cheerfully double the recommended dosage if the child seems to be getting difficult, and sometimes advise the school to do the same. Some even use the medication as a pick-me-up for themselves.

It is also worth mentioning that the parents of children who are diagnosed as having attention deficit hyperactivity disorder are entitled to an attendance allowance, which could also provide motivation for seeking such a diagnosis. SUZANNE TIBURTIUS Canterbury

Nowhere to roam

Sir: Most of us live miles away from the areas of heath, moor or downland which are the subject of the Government's "right to roam" proposals. Yet more and more of us want to go for a country walk.

In lowland areas of intensive farming, rights of way often run right across what is now leatureless arable land, stripped of hedges and trees and unsuitable for any sort of recreational use. These rights of way are a nuisance

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity



National Orchestra Week No 5: Members of the City of London Sinfonia play at Liverpool Street station in this series of events sponsored by BT David Rose

to the farmer and not much fun for the walker - particularly where farmers repeatedly remove waymarks and refuse to mark the path after ploughing and sowing.

These archaic footpaths should be rerouted to reflect contemporary needs. Given the popularity of walking, new footpaths should be created too. Of course the machinery exists, at local level through the parish council, but the problem seems to be just that: at local level in rural England power still usually remains vested in the landowners.

Lowland farmers might be keen to divert walkers away from the middle of arable land, but they certainly don't want to divert them on to their own amenity land ~ shooting terrain: pheasants and partridge or wildfowling land along the edge of rivers. The high cost of a gun is quite a spur when it comes to lobbying to keep the walker out of woods and pleasant meadow grassland; there is an even greater cost if they happen to shoot a rambler instead of a

These matters need addressing. Lowland walkers are still stuck. KATE RHODES

Sir: Christopher Luke (letter, 10 March) complains that people using a right of way in Abergavenny walk past his front door and thus invade his privacy.

I suggest he gets out a bit more; not only do people walk past my front door, they also have the temerity to drive their cars, vans and lorries past it as well! This right of way is known as a road; there are quite a few of them in our towns and cities. MARK BLACKMAN London SE14

Sir: Christopher Luke complains. understandably, about the nuisance he endures because of the footpath which passes through his property. It is easy to sympathise with him and his family, as one also will with people

who live near a motorway, railway

He has one sure recourse: sell up and move to a place which has none of these nuisances. Of course property near motorways. airports, railways or footpaths is discounted, so he will have to find a little extra cash (which he appears not to be short of). PETER WILSON Barnord Castle, Co Durham

Sir: Your leading article of 9 March claimed that in welcoming the Government's proposals for a statutory right of access to open countryside, I was undergoing some sort of personal conversion. No conversion was needed.

During my time as president of the Country Landowners' Association I worked bard to promote improved access to the countryside – hanging home the legal and political realities to landowners, establishing countryside recreation and access groups with local authorities and all the while trying to reduce confrontation. The CLA promoted

Sir. Several of the arguments of

Earth, leading to his conclusion

the director of Friends of the

that Lord Sainsbury must go

government anyone who has

knowledge of the subject of a

policy for which they have any

responsibility. I am more than

content to see among ministers

someone who actually knows

something about the subject.

Sir: Horses know instinctively

not to eat ragwort and will not

poisonous to them. Cattle avoid

eating buttercups for the same

Hart-Davis (Country Matters,

6 March) gives us another, that

reason. There are many such

examples in the wild. Duff

willingly do so because it is

GEOFFREY MYERS

Croudon, Surrey

practical experience and

(letter, 11 March), would

appear to exclude from

access through voluntary arrangements and, as its leader, I represented that view to

government as best I could.

From April I have a new, much broader constituency. I am convinced by my experience that a presumption in favour of a right of access on open country is right, and that the package announced by Government will provide essential clarity for all parties. I firmly believe that sensitively implemented, with the safeguards the Government has proposed, access can be successfully integrated with other land uses to everyone's benefit. **EWEN CAMERON**

Chairman Designate The Countryside Agency Cheltenham, Gloucestershire Sir: In 1968 Alexander Dubcel famously declared that there is

more than one way into socialism.

IN BRIEF

pheasants will not willingly eat

precautionary principle apply.

It is not for us to prove that GM

foods may be harmful. It is for

Monsanto, Agrevo et al to prove

genetically modified maize.

Will this information be

researched? Let the

that they never will be.

Linton, Cambridgeshire

Sir: The implied threat that

unacceptable ("BMW tells

Longbridge to fight Hungary

for car", 10 March), However, it

may well be that in the need to

preserve jobs the Government

will have to give way. If British

unless the British government

subsidises BMW to the tune of

£200m they will take their work

BRIAN MARSHALL

elsewhere has to be

Is Tony Blair taking the scenic

ALEX OLIVER Oegstgeest, Netherlands

Scan the options

Sir: Annabel Ferriman's article "The pregnant pause" (9 March) provides a balanced view of antenatal screening tests. It does however, highlight an important contradictory aspect of such

Unless there is a specific increase in risk of abnormality because of past history, tests in pregnancy are offered as screening for abnormalities. These tests should be explained as such and parents should not be offered, or accept, them as "routine".

Even an early scan to confirm the stage of a pregnancy should only be offered with the proviso that there is a chance of detecting signs which may be associated with foetal abnormalities, even though they are not performed for of the country.

Under these circumstances. parents have the opportunity to accept testing if they understand the implications and want to know the results. Parents seek

taxpayers' money is to be used

to support BMW, then BMW

should be required to supply

its British customers with its

those on the Continent.

Fontmell Magna, Dorset

Sir: Foxhunting is a sport.

Should Tony Banks, Minister for

Sport, not be treating it with the

vigour that he might treat rugby

same enthusiatic and positive

and boxing, two other sports

"unnecessary and barbarous"

March). That he lets his strong

approach to his job suggest to

that he could describe as

(You Ask the Questions, 10

personal views bias his

me that he should resign.

PAUL FREEMAN

Gloucestershire

Wotton-under-Edge,

REGINALD COLLIN

products at prices the same as

need for subsequent diagnostic investigations and perhaps intervention, even though most babies will be normal in the end. If parents do not wish to run the risk of finding potential signs of abnormality, then they need not accept testing SIMON GRANT

reassurance of normality, which

screening tests imply a possible

can never be assured. All

Senior Registrar in Obstetrics and Gynaecology Birmingham

Celebration

Sir: Your leading article of 9 March states that "Commonwealth Day passed off yesterday with few celebrations". In fact, there were celebrations, but they were not widely reported in the print media.

Over 2,000 people, 1,000 of them school children from all over the United Kingdom, came to Westminster Abbey to hear the Queen's speech and readings from senior representatives of the world's major faiths. They heard music from Australia and the Caribbean and watched classical Indian Kathak dancing to the

sound of the sitar and tabla. The Royal Commonwealth Society and Commission for Racial Equality sent leaflets encouraging celebrations of Commonwealth Day to local authorities, libraries and every school in the UK. A CD-Rom illustrating the cultural diversity and political and economic importance of the Commonwealth is being distributed free to schools.

The Commonwealth Club just off Trafalgar Square is fast becoming London's premier multicultural meeting place.
Fundamental to combating racism is understanding and experiencing other cultures and lifestyles. This is what Commonwealth Day is about. Perhaps, next year, the media, including The Independent, might bother to report it. PETER LUFF Director Royal Commonwealth Society

London WC2

Curb on weapons

Sir. Preventing the global spread of weapons of mass destruction is an rgent priority. Today (12 March), MPs can make their contribution by supporting the Nuclear

Safeguards Bill in the Commons. If enacted, this Bill will enable the UK to ratify an additional protocol to its Nuclear Safeguards Agreement of 1976. This will form part of an international process whereby states are asked to give 🐪 International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspectors increased access to nuclear and nuclear-related facilities.

The inadequacy of existing safeguards was demonstrated by the discovery - only made possible following the Gulf war - of a clandestine nuclear weapons programme in Iraq, despite that country having in place a comprehensive safeguards agreement with the IAEA.

To date. 36 states, including all EU member states, have signed protocols with the IAEA but only five have ratified. Early ratification by the UK would demonstrate this country's willingness to take a lead in global efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons Dr STEPHEN PULLINGER Executive Director, International Security Information Service London ECI

Feminist logic

Sir: As the instigator of the current "male feminist" debate, I must say that I have considered Adrian Coyle's argument (letter, 8 March) carefully and found it to be completely logical, which leaves me in a dilemma. If I can accept an argument on its logic, I cannot see where one's sex comes into it.

I will go on supporting the feminist cause and try to think of a label for myself other than "critic of gendered power relations" which I assume he lifted from Viz magazine's Modern Parents. Also, next time I go to an anti-racist march I will be sure to black myself up. ROBERT G BREW Worthing, West Sussex

Sir; None of the (admittedly few) transsexual women that I know "does" womanliness, any more, presumably, than Adrian Coyle "does" manliness. We are who we are, and we "do" only ourselves.

Nor are transsexuals surgically produced - surgery is merely a means of achieving as much congruence as possible between social role and physiology, and is not available unless that role is well-established. RACHAEL PADMAN Combridge

European family

Sir: I agree with Norman Paterson in his desire not to see another European War (letter, 10 March). But will closer European

integration further that cause? One of the greatest causes of war in this century has been the collapse of empires or states formed from a collection of culturally diverse nations.

A looser collection of friendly and co-operating states (as we have at present) might give us a better chance of peace in the long term. Rather as members of an extended family keep in touch and help each other out from time to time so might the European Union best operate. A more closely integrated Europe might end up like a kind of permanent family Christmas, which, however much you love your family, I wouldn't ANDREW BYNG-HALL

Classic error

Teddington, Middlesex

Sir: Children may not be turning their backs on reading the classics (report, 9 March), simply reinterpreting them. I observed work in a primary school where one seven-year old wrote about her favourite book - Winnie the Pooh, by Walt Disney HILARY ROBINSON South Milford, North Yorkshire

In the words of Hamlet's father: 'List, list, O list'

Ten things that are said to be good if strong, or even extra strong

Peppermints Arm tactics Man in a circus Feelings Room Language Bow Drink

Ten subjects introduced into pub quizzes in order to baffle the intellectuals and swots who would otherwise know everything and win every time TV soaps

Pop music TV signature tunes Video games Footballers' nicknames Famous moustaches History of underwear Cartoon characters History of crime

Ten unfortunate ways to open a conversation

"I don't know anyone here." "Haven't we met somewhere "I'm sure I know your face from

somewhere...' "You're from Barnsley, aren't "There'a someone in Barnsley who is the spitting image of you."

"You'd like Barnsley." "So, what do you think of this Monica Lewinsky business then?" "Did you see the news the other "Did you see the papers this morning?" "What line of husiness are you

Ten unusual phobias

market places Aguephobia - fear of getting diseases mentioned only by Shakespeare, which no living doctor can cure any more

Agoraphobia - fear of old Greek

Agaphobia - fear of being made fun of for having a trendy stove Aggrophobia - fear of being duffed up by football fans Aghaphobia - fear of the leader

of a small Ismaili sect Accraphobia - fear of being beaten up in a lawless African city Agraphobia - fear of being overcharged by an Indian tour opera-



MILES **KINGTON** Unusual Phobias No 3:

Agaphobia – fear of being made fun of for having a trendy stove

Acrephobia - fear of not being able to convert English land values into hectares

Eigerphobia - fear of falling off spowy heights Agar-agarophobia – fear of any gelatinous aubstance made from

Ten poncy words that people use as an alternative to 'two'

Brace Duet Diptych Вгасе Twain Coupling Tandem Deuce Twosome

Ten nusatisfying ways to end a conversation

"Let's agree to differ shall we?" "It's only a game, after all"

"Don't do anything I wouldn't "Good heavens, is that the

"I've just seen someone over there I really must grab before they

"Oh, well, it takes all sorts...," Tve just realised you're not the person I thought you were." "I have just realised you are so pig-headed that I am going to beat you over the head with golf clubs." "We must do hunch."

Ten books never referred to by name, but only by the names of the people who started them Debrett's

Burke's Roget's

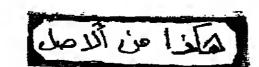
Fowler Pears Brewer's Larousse Webster's

Ten things which are useless by themselves but which we always keep, just in case A single sock A single glove

One Monopoly £5 note An earring Any button One screw lying innocently on the car floor

Fifty-one playing cards One phone number on a loose piece of paper, no name attached A nearly empty bottle of flat tonic

A single spare shoe lace



HIF FRIDAY REVIEW

Regression of the fill will employed the FE to rathy an additional the the regions of communical problems of 1976. This will feet Agreement of the communical feet of the communication of the communicati trail of an international process wheredwide the maked to go Whereas and Arome Energy Probes (INE) inchesons haracter transfer to melcat an miclesy related building

The mentional averaging Citioguards was demonstratedly the death of any made both following the tink war of Claudicing michal madons franklations, in part qualities country but me in place a comprehensive calculard Stratistical and the PET

To date, so states, including a Fit true indices states, have signed provided in the LAEA but on five large transportations. for the UK would demonstrate be country a willingness to take the to dispense and to be committee predictration of unclear weapon Dr STP:PHE\PULLINGER Executive Director Internation Secretary intervention Service Landon Fe⁺

Feminist logic

Sir As the mentgator of the come "made fermined" debate, limite Brat I have consulered Adrian Carin - arithment detter s Mark carefully and namel to be contributely logaral, whichless ria in a dilemma li Leanacean attenuent on its logic, learning

Where are any comes mion will prove supporting the bettime them enables to both Later tor the alforder than the the conversed power regulations the we provide ideal nomble. Band and Western Parents & most torn functo arantemes proceed for the correct black My ordings

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two formers the admittedying this remaining women that I be The second of the second green et al. There Virtuiting radional transfer and Messachise and read the second particles New parts of restals state paragoners in the militarity tate a control of the first the mast and the state of the book of the book and were the following as it it may and the residuate. term of a com-Residence course

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Classic error

ment of not-unfriendly Tories in big jobs, such as Lord Wakeham's chair-manship of the Royal Commission 3000

> Alexander will be heading an enquiry into shipping tax, is precisely part of how formidably the Prime Minister has gathered up potentially oppos-is all figures into the seemingly ever-widening arc of support for his national project.

the election.

One of the appointments which the Prime Minister now has to ponder in the next few months is that of an EU commissioner to replace Sir Leon

sidering making an appointment to the

chairmanship of the Tote in the run-

up to the general election he se-

cured, as convention required, the

agreement of his shadow, Jack Straw,

to go ahead and make it. It was the

then leader of the opposition who,

instantly seeing that this was an at-

tractive job, for which a Labour home

secretary, not to mention a Labour

prime minister, could confer a con-siderable sense of obligation by filling,

intervened and stopped the appoint-

ment from being made in advance of

All this merely proves, if proof were needed, that Tony Blair has a

keen understanding of the powers of

patronage. There is nothing remotely disreputable about this. British prime

ministers have fewer institutional

levers than most of those who elect

second-stage reform of the House of

Lords, to relatively minor ones, such

as the announcement in this week's

Budget by Gordon Brown that Lord

WHEN MICHAEL Howard was con- at the end of the year. Not everyone agrees that he has to ponder it at all, since, as is normal, the Leader of the Opposition has already made his recommendation: that of Sir Alastair Goodlad, John Major's chief whip. whom William Hague rather painfully sacked from the Shadow Cabinet. (Convention dictates that one commissioner, in this case Neil Kinnock, should be of the governing party and the other from the opposition.)

Nor was Mr Hague's a frivolous proposal. Had Mr Hague followed his own instincts by suggesting a deep-dyed Eurosceptic, it would have been deliberate mischief-making. But Sir Alastair, part of the liberal, patrician wing of the Tory party, is a natural though unfanatical pro-European. He has a strong sense of the British interest. He combines decency with a certain humorous worldliness, which makes him impossible to dislike. Why, therefore, should

there be any doubt about it? First, because while convention dictates that the two commissioners should be from opposing parties, it does not require the leader of the opposition's recommendation to be followed. Indeed there is a list of precedents in which previous prime ministers did not do so. The decision by Jim Callaghan to appoint Christopher Tugendhat rather than John Davies, who was recommended by the then opposition leader Margaret Thatcher, and John Major's to give Bruce Millan another two years in Brussels, rather than accede to John



Who will Tony Blair choose as

Britain's new man in Brussels?

DONALD

If the Government wants to maximise influence in the EU we must have a big,

waiting in the wings. Here an interest should be deHurd stood down. Instead he refused to take either a peerage, or an unceremonious reinsertion into the Commons by means of an emforced byelection, and became the last governor of Hong Kong, performing that difficult task with distinction under two Tory foreign secretaries and one

He has thought long and seriously about Europe. It is difficult, in other words, to think of a senior Tory-with the possible exception of Kenneth Clarke, who isn't interested in becoming a commissioner - who is bet-

ter qualified for an international job. There has been talk in Brussels of Mr Patten getting the new post of executing and co-ordinating the EU's Foreign and Security Policy and that's certainly possible. But unlike the commissionership, the foreign policy post is not in Mr Blair's gift, it's not certain that it will go to a Briton. It is part of the complex horse tracing among all the big EU countries. At oresent the main focus of discussion in Whitehall and Brussels is on the question of the commission presidency, for which Romano Proce of Italy and Javier Solana of Spain are both likely candidates. If Mr Solana gets the presidency then Carlos Westendorp, another Spaniard, will not get the for-

eign policy job. And so on. This is difficult for the Prime Minister. Sir Alastair was his parliamentary pair (under the reciprocal arrangement by which an MP allows his opponent to take the night off by not going through the division lobby), Smith's recommendation of Neil Kin- Democrat, he would probably have be- as intimate a relationship as an MP

Lord Chancellor's. It would not be easy to deprive him of a job Mr Hagne no doubt partly intended to be compensation for losing his seat on the Shadow Cabinet And finally, he is reputed to have played a helpful behindthe scenes role in the negotiations that led to the historic compromise allowing 91 hereditary peers to retain

their seats in the Lords. But this isn't really the point. It is much more a question of how Britain is seen in Europe. If the British Government wants to maximise its influence in the EU - and it surely does then it is important to have a big and upwardly mobile Tory figure in the Commission. Sir Leon, a figure of real authority in Brussels, has shown how important it is to have a pro-European. Conservative with a high profile as a British commissioner. Nice as he is, Alastair Goodlad simply doesn't have that kind of profile or capacity to ar-ticulate the future direction of the EU.

Mr Patten, with an already high international reputation, and from the front rank of British politicians, undoubtedly does. If he doesn't get the foreign policy job, he surely has a better claim to the commissionership than any other Conservative.

The Prime Minister is no doubt sensible not to make a decision before he has to; part of the useful exercise of patronage is to keep the possible beneficiaries waiting. But while Mr Blair likes Mr Goodlad a lot, he is also a meritocrat who wants to be taken seriously in Europe. Two considerations which point inexorably towards

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A resignation that is good for Germany and all Europe

WITHIN MINUTES of the news of Oskar Lafontaine's abrupt resignation as German Finance Minister, the value of the euro went up by two cents against the dollar on the foreign exchanges.

Whatever the reasons for Lafontaine's dramatic resignation, that simple fact illustrates why his going had become so important, and so necessary. It is not that Lafontaine was a "leftie", the red menace of British tabloid venom and German cartoonists' delight. In reality he wasn't nearly as far to the left as he was painted. Nor does one accept his departure so easily because the man was so unpredictable in his behaviour and so flamboyant in his private life, although those traits too are becoming less acceptable in today's world. Indeed it is possible to have a great deal of sympathy with a politician who cared deeply about issues such as unemployment, restrictive monetary policies, and the launch of a euro that put the credentials of the new currency above the need to prevent a slide back into recession.

But the reality is that Oskar had become a liability to Germany, to the fledgling project of monetary union, and to the political health of the union. While the British became obsessed with his ambitions to extend German levels of tax and social welfare payments throughout Europe, and to Britain in particular, the rest of Germany was far more concerned with his constant and public rowing with the German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder Like Gordon Brown, Lafontaine never forgave Schröder for beating him to leadership of the Social Democratic Party. and hence to the top job in the country, while Schröder never forgave Lafontaine for driving out his friend Jost Stollmann from an economic ministership almost as soon as he had been appointed.

With division at the top, the German government has been unable to produce an acceptable new tax programme for the country. Even worse, he has ensured his nation has been unable to present a solid face to Europe, whose presidency Germany now has for the first half of the year. At the same time Lafontaine, partly in concert with his French counterpart, has launched a damagingly public campaign to get the new European Central Bank to temper its monetary terms in view of faltering European growth, It was not a silly campaign. The Americans, after all, also want Europe to drop interest rates in order to promote growth. But the hostility of Germany's econamic chief did much to undermine the first months of

So how much better will Europe now be without him? Germany, the pivotal country in this fledgling project, will be stronger without a divided leadership. Blair will undoubtedly be happier too, solidified in an undisputed



leadership with Schröder, who is his political soulmate, rather than Lafontaine, whose pro-French tendencies got in the way. The French prime minister, Lionel Jospin, is probably more comfortable with a quieter tone of economic conservatism than Lafontaine allowed him. The euro will become - and indeed already is - stronger for the cessation of hostilities.

Yet to blame Lafontaine for all these problems, and to hope that they will evaporate with his departure, would be to misread the situation. Schröder's handling of government since taking office, and his first efforts in the presidency of Europe, have been uncertain and at times inept. German growth is slowing alarmingly and the pressure for a relaxation of monetary discipline will go on, albeit less publicly. For Europe, and for Britain, this provides opportunities. But Lafontaine's departure only makes it more urgent that Blair throws himself wholeheartedly into an enterprise that now needs British support just as Britain needs its success.

CAP reform: one step forwards, two back

WE TRY to understand European Union politics, we really do. But this is the sort of thing that illustrates the sheer undemocratic obfuscation which hampers the building of a people's Europe. The EU's farm ministers had before them two radical options for reforming the Common Agricultural Policy. One was to reduce progressively the subsidy paid to farmers to compensate them for ending price supports. The other was to require national governments to bear one quarter of the cost of the CAP in their country. They chose neither, and ended up with a deal which means the CAP will continue to cost the taxpayers of Europe as much as it does today for the next seven years.

eal will eventually save £1bn a year on food prices in this

country - but what he means is that food prices will not go up by this amount, as they otherwise would. This is scant consolation for the fact that we must pay much more for our food than we need to until at least 2006.

The failure to agree radical reforms of the CAP additionally undermines the EU's stance in its dispute with the US over Caribbean bananas - which cannot be presented as an exceptional case for tariffs as long as the entire EU food market remains so insulated from world prices. It undermines the sincerity of the EU in negotiating for Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Slovenia and Cyprus to join the EU as soon as possible.

And it weakens the whole case for further European integration by emphasising the irrational, opaque and only tenuously democratic processes of decision-making at the centre. Yesterday's deal was a step in the right direction, in that it stopped the bloated farm subsidies getting any Nick Brown, the British agriculture minister, claims the larger, but it was a miserable pigeon-toed step which by took Europe back

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It's been pretty tough to keep going."

Alexander Thynn,

7th Marquess of Bath and owner of the Longleat estate THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

> "A lotta cats copy the Mona Lisa, but people still line up to see the original."
>
> Louis Armstrong.

jazz musician

No news is bad news.

Watch the new ten o'clock news from the award-winning Sky News Team tonight.

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MACINTYRE

high-profile commissioner

cause there is another first-rate and, frankly, better-qualified candidate

clared in passing. Mr Chris Patten is a non-executive director of Independent Newspapers (UK), which owns
The Independent, but it would be hard
to ignore his qualities if he were on the board of a deadly rival. The Prime Minister is already sufficiently seized of them to have put Mr Patten in charge of perhaps the most politically delicate of all of the enquiries established by this Government, that into the future

of the Royal Ulster Constabulary. Mr Patten was certainly one of the brightest stars of the Tory Party in the Eighties. Had the electors of Bath not turfed him out in favour of a Liberal Brittan when his term of office expires nock, are only two. And secondly, be-

> between us and Argentina tion to "live harmoniously were most welcome. Teaberry Express, Falklands few kilometres from Argen-

THE PRINCE had a king of words produced an immediate

spades up his sleeve. Lacking sensation of discomfort among an ace to trump the power of the ministers of the govern-President Menem, the key sen-ment, despite their efforts to tence in the Prince's speech conceal it. No one knew in adwas a thrust in the diplomatic vance what he was going to say, and no one expected it. The implications of those words fell on worrying for the future. With all the Argentine government like

alongside a little democracy a

tine democracy". These strong

were in centuries gone by, nor simple condemnation of "Engat the beginning of this century. globalisation, it is not enough apportunity for important sym-Why has he come? What attitude should we take to the Prince? These questions have generated very different re-

PRINCES ARE not what they of the former empire to the does the British crown repre- lish pirate". At this fin de siècle sent for Argentina what it did dominated by scepticism and The local press provides the just to be a prince, and poor Charles has neither the aura of bolic bettles. Who is visiting us: kings nor the glamour of the fashion world.

IN THE Falklands many people had an "I told you so" attitude sponses. They have ranged from a respectful welcome when they heard of Prince MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD

South American press comment on Prince Charles's state visit to Argentina

the system. The pressure from in the past few weeks, so his reworthy of the future monarch Charles's comments about both the Argentine and the marks about an understanding

their islands and they were re- British press over so-called lieved that the press reports talks and requests for special coming from Argentina weren't favours and proposed visits true. It reaffirmed their faith in had begun to wear people down

fencing over the Malvinas. His argument was surprising and

delicacy and formality of style, but firmly, he issued an invita-La Nacion, Argentina

PANDORA

HANDBAGS AT dawn at Carlton's next board meeting? The media monolith's plutocratic proprietor, Michael Green. was asked about negotiations with the Hollywood tycoon Barry Diller. "No problem." Green smiled. "He's just an old Jewish queen." Green himself is a Jewish family man with a lively sense of humour. Let's hope his new co-director, Lord (Waheed) Alli, who's just sold his share of Planet 24 to Carlton for six zeros plus two commas, is similarly easy-going. Locals at Tenterden in Kent refer to Alli's long-term partner (and fellow Planet 24 sell-out beneficiary) Charlie Parsons as "the lady of the manor".

FAREWELL, FLAMING Ferraris, After James Archer's wheels fell off this week, the latest sobriquet for Credit Suisse First Boston's futures desk is "the Smouldering Skodas".

CONSERVATIVE EDUCATION policy offends the Government's palate. When the Tory spokesman David Willetts rose to speak in Thursday's education debate. Lucy the faithful hound of the education secretary David Blunkett, threw up.

JOHN PRESCOTT'S Indian jaunt hasn't loosened his grip over colleagues at the Department of **Environment**, Transport and the Regions. Our Number One Guy's chief steward phoned in to the departmental morning meeting this week to take a roll-call. Glenda Jackson. Michael Meacher and Nick Raynsford sheepishly indicated their attendance. "as if the boss had just called a school register", says one apparatchik.

CONSPICUOUS AMONG MPs signing an Early Day Molion to support the Royal National Lifeboat Institution this week ... Julia Drown.

WE'RE ALL familiar with those rapid-fire sometime knitwear maven emergency-room scenes in Casualty night) where blood spills, six-packs tremble and the scrubbed ones talk at 150mph. But what are they babbling about? Herewith, the first of Pandora's Subtitles for the Slang-Impaired. Coag screen: test assessing how effectively blood is coagulating. Going off: patient is deteriorating badly. Hopper: a

malingerer who flits from hospital to hospital to get nnwarranted attention. IV bolus: massive one-shot intravenous drug feed through a drip. Sinus rhythm: normal heartbeat. DOA: dead on arrival DIC: died in casualty, DIT: died in transit. BID: brought in dead. PO: per ora (by month). PR: per rectum. PV: "Ladies only".

SAY IT ain't so, Bill. A US tabloid is about to break the story of how Slick Willy had the hots for three female secret service agents. One of them allegedly filed a formal complaint. Beltway insiders say rumours of a marriage split are Hillary's doing; she's playing victim as part of her long term political strategy.

ARE THE legs coming off William Hague's kitchen table Conservatism? The party's house journal, a newspaper called *The Daily* Telegroph, ran a bold story pointing out that "William Hague doesn't have a kitchen table". Imagine the hanless hack's surprise when she was telephoned by the Boy Blunder. "Alice." Hague chided, "when you came over, we had coffee in the kitchen, didn't we?" Yes, she agreed. "Well, what do von think we were drinking it off?" Oops.

WINNER OF Pandora's saucer

of milk this week is W magazine, which assembled its style cop to make over Camilla Parker Bowles for its next issue, "She's looking very dowdy and frumpy," says New York designer Carolina Herrera, John Joseph, a Beverly Hills plastic surgeon, is more clinical: "It looks like she's had a fair amount of sun exposure, and the skin has lost its elasticity." The knifestyler of the rich and famous advises immediate laser skin resurfacing - along with a neck- and face-lift. Even Bowles's barnet catches flak, Hollywood hairtresser Art Luna: "She's got to get rid of that weird short Farrah thing." But the cat with the cream is Julien Macdonald,

> at Chanel and Lagerfeld. The Welsh wool wizard more aggressive fashion attitude. otherwise she'll end up looking like Princess Anne". Macdonald's panacea? Black leather during the day, and at night – red only. "She

> > scarlet woman - after all she is anyway." Contact Pandora by e-mail: pandoraci independent.

should be a

The day I was named in the House

OK, TODAY'S column is going to be entirely given over to boasting. I don't think I've been so revoltingly over-excited since my sixth birthday party, to be honest, and now that I'm middle-aged my mum is not, I hope, going to take me on one side and tell me to stop showing off. It's just this: I have been named on the floor of the House of Commons. As Nancy Mitford used to say: do admit.

I was having a quiet little nap at about four o'clock on Wednesday afternoon when the telephone rang. It was a mate of mine, calling from his office in the House of Commons. "You'll never guess," he said. "They're asking about you in Points of Order. By name, I mean, by name." "What?" I said. "Not expressing houndless admiration for the deathless prose again, are they?" "No, no, better, much better," he said. "They're slagging you off." And then affairs of state seized him and he had to go.

It wasn't until I got hold of Hansard yesterday that I saw what it was all about. A few days ago I went on Radio 4's Today programme to set them right about some minuscule leak that was caus-



PHILIP HENSHER

Parliament is wrong and deplorable and silly, and its activities

largely a waste of time

ing a tiny fuss that day. A clerk, the head of the administrative team to a select committee, had been discovered to have sent a list of draft questions to a government department in advance of an evidence session. There's a great deal of fitteriness about at the moment as soon as the word "leak" is mentioned, and plenty of MPs could be found to denounce this dreadful

interference with a committee's been her I would have been pretty sovereign rights, this appalling act of collusion, etc etc etc.

Well, years ago I used to be a clerk on a select committee, and if this was a violation of a committee's rights, it was certainly one I used to carry out hlithely twice a week, as did everyone else I ever worked with I mean select committees are not sessions of Mastermind: they are there to establish information, and a committee or a chairman who wants only to make witnesses look ignorant or foolish - stand up Gerald Kaufman - is wasting everyone's time. So, of course, we used to tell witnesses roughly what the committee was interested in, just as we told the committee what to be interested in. The point was to try to keep the whole thing more or less on the rails.

No public official, of course, could say this once MPs had started to express outrage about it, and the House of Commons rather weedily didn't try to defend a universal and indispensable practice. Indeed, they claimed in the newspapers that the official had been disciplined. I don't believe this for a second, but if I had

furious to read in print that I had been reprimanded for doing my job. Anyway, I went on the radio to say how stupid and damaging it was to call these negotiations "leak ing". Even Members of Parliament, in the end, ought to be able to understand the difference between this and, say, sending a draft of a report critical of a government department to the relevant ministry and asking them what changes they would like to suggest.

In a way, the tiny row typifies the regular spectacle of the House of Commons at its worst. It has no effective means of defending its own procedures, so it is easy to assume that when they fail to resemble, say, the German Bundestag's, they are quaint, pointless, a waste of time, or even corrupt. In fact, little of all this is ecceptric spectacle; most of the apparent pantomime, like the game of musical chairs as a Bill goes into committee, or the slamming of the door in Black Rod's face, is there to announce constitutional principles. I'm not saying that the House's daily practices should not be questioned, but it is extraordinary at what

length discussions can be sustained in the House between people who frankly have no idea what they are talking about. The authorities in the House have the sense, you expect, to make a show of throwing up their hands in horror and then continuing exactly as they did before. But you can't help feeling that a robust response of "this is how things need to be done" would, from time to time, be more appropriate.

Parliament is wrong and deplorable and silly, and its activities are largely routine, or even a waste of time. Of course this is the case, and no one should be more interested in Parliament than in the great world that streams swiftly through its intricate mechanisms. It is customary to announce that nowadays life is elsewhere, in the regions, or in continental Europe. But all the same, I bet you know what I mean about the thrill and excitement of being named on the floor of the House. Anyone would want to boast about it. It still matters, and still counts in a way in which Europe doesn't yet, in a way in which the (Church doesn't any more; and it isn't just nostalgic sentiment that says so.

The truth is that science is boring to schoolchildren

LONG. LONG ago, when Peter Mandelson was in charge of the Department of Trade and Industry, I went to see him launch a campaign to get more girls to take up science at school. The venue was a school in Camden, and, of course, the only suitable place to launch such an idea was in the science laboratories

It was not an auspicious choice. The event was delayed because a fire alarm went off - caused, it was said, by faulty wiring in one of the school's four laboratories. Then before we trooped back in to hear Mr Mandelson announce that £85,000 would be spent printing posters and somehow persuading secondary school girls that science really is fun. a member of staff sidled up to me. "Ask him how long it is since the

laboratories were refurbished," the teacher said. "Because I've been here 20 years and they've certainly never been improved in that time." like this give pupils a good message about the value you put on science?"

"What I think is a good message." he replied through gritted teeth, giving me a look that would deselect a Labour MP at 50 paces, "is how much money is going into science in the classroom, and investment in the interface of science laboratories

and teaching in our schools."

Whatever that meant, it didn't disguise the fact that on the board where safety glasses should be. pair No 30 was missing or that some of the potentiometers tused to vary resistance in electrical circuits) looked as though they had been handed down from Thomas Faraday. I'm prepared to bet, as Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) Week starts today, that the No 30 pair is still missing and that the potentiometers have not heen replaced.



CHARLES ARTHUR

The trouble with teaching science to children is that it's chiefly a method, not just a body of facts

Contrast that gloomy thought with the news, reported in this paper earlier this week, that "narrative non-fiction" - and especially science - is enjoying a boom among about superstring theory, look no further than your nearest bookshop. where Brian Greene's The Elegant Universe will lead you gently but thoroughly into a comprehension of 11-dimensional space. Science books are enjoying a boom. So are science programmes on TV. People are fascinated by science and scientists, and especially by the power they wield in the modern age.

However, power also leads to fear, especially if you don't understand how it is that the scientist gains that power. And while it may seem like a huge leap from Peter Mandelson in a run-down school laboratory to the sort of concerns - most of them groundless - expressed over say, genetically modified foods. there is a clear link.

The trouble with teaching science to children is that science (and, by extension, engineering and tech-

nology) is predominantly a method, rather than being just a body of facts. It is important for the science stu-

dent to discover that when you perform experiments all sorts of things don't bappen as you want them to: that copper sulphate, while having interestingly shaped crystals, is very hard to measure out exactly (unless you grind it, in which case it's hard to keep track of the bits). Or that repeating 19th century physics experiments in such a way that you get the same results is in fact extremely hard.

Learning to "do" science, rather than just "learning" science (such as the sequence of hormones in the menstrual cycle and pregnancy - a group of facts I learnt at school whose value has become clear only 25 years later) is difficult. It puts people, including girls, off. To be honest, I'm not sure whether gleaming new laboratories would make much difference. You have to like the prac-

However, it is through carrying out the experiments that a scientist is truly born-fired, if you like, by the flame of the Bunsen burner. Graduate scientists know that textbooks may offer all the answers, but they hide the long slog involved in getting there - all the peculiar data usually dismissed as "experimental error", and the joy of being able to make your experiment work not once but twice and then three times.

It is much easier, though, lo read a book. Which is why although fewer people are applying to do science and engineering at university, and fewer are taking science subjects at A-level, we have a publishing boom for science books. Is that a bad thing? If we are truly

headed for an economy in which knowledge and science are the keystones, then yes, it is bad that fewer



How can we enthuse girls with science?

Howard Barlow

always better to be a producer than In addition, reliance on predigested information means that

foods and crops, appears on the horizon, the non-scientist's first reaction is panic. Professor Steve Jones, an expert in genetics at University College London, remarked this week that: "the story of GM foods has been the biggest disaster for the national understanding of science in the past decade... everyone, on both sides of the argument, seems to have suspended their critical faculties. just because science is involved."

It is interesting to note what Professor Jones - a geneticist, hut not an expert in genetic manipulation did when he wanted to find out more: he asked other scientists who would know about it, and weighed up their answers for himself. He carried out the procedure. The reaction of the public, by contrast, has been to try to find ready-made answers. I have to admit that I don't hold out people are now doing science. It is much hope for SET Week breaking fallback.

through the public's ignorance about science, and particularly in getting people to understand the science questions that matter to them - such not genes define your destiny, and perhaps even whether the universe really is made up of superstrings. That is because they will have been turned off the practice of science long ago, in those antiquated school laboratories, despite the best efforts of ministers.

Not even Peter Mandelson was immune from that indifference. On that November day in Camden, he recalled his own science teaching: "My headmaster tried to get me to do arts and chemistry A-levels, each in a single year. I didn't. In my endof-term report he wrote, I have tried to show Mandelson the path to greatness but he has chosen to ignore my advice.' And look," Mr. Mandelson said, "at where I am."

Perhaps he should have dooe accountancy instead of art. But the chemistry might have been a useful

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A continent infected with corruption

CRIMINALS ARE people who break the criminal law. But what happens when people pledged to execute the laws of a country policemen, officials, cabinet ministers, heads of state even - themselves contravene this same legal code massively and here not to misconduct of the type alleged against President Clinton in the Starr report, hut to such major crimes as large-scale fraud, drug-traffickcurrency, and murder or incitement to murder.

In receot years it has become clear that this is a question which anyone observing Africa has to think about. But the phenomenon which I am calling the criminalisation of the state is not by any means unique to Africa. There are other places where the apparatus of the state has been used for criminal purposes on a scale greater than anything seen in Africa, and where professional criminals may have assumed senior positions in government. Russia and Mex-

ico spring to mind. In Europe,

Italy has some of the hall-

marks of a criminalised state.

Africa stands out only in that, of all the contineots, it is the one in which the state as an organisation capable of upholding a monopoly of legitimate violence has declined the furthest and where, in some respects, the interaction of state and society can be studied repeatedly? I am referring more fruitfully in this regard than elsewhere. Let me be slightly more

specific about what I mean when I speak of senior state officials who break the laws they ing, the counterfeiting of are pledged to uphold. Concentrating only on Africa, we might consider first the recruitment by government ministers - or simply by friends and relatives of the president. as happened at the time of the genocide in Rwanda - of private armies, or the use of official armies and security forces

for purely private purposes. This has taken on the most tragic proportions in the Great Lakes region of Africa. It is hard to imagine any crime more serious than the use of organised violence, including large-scale murder, by private persons or for private purposes. It challenges the core of modern ideas about what a state is and what it is for.



PODIUM STEPHEN ELLIS

From a speech by the Dutch academic to the Royal African Society of the University of London

Secondly, the engagement of state officials in major forms of illegal trade, such as drugsmuggling. This has occurred in several African countries, such as Equatorial Guinea, where some 20 diplomats have been arrested abroad carrying cocaine or heroin in the past 10 years, most of them close to senior ministers or to the presidency. Many of the culprits were promoted on being expelled from their countries of

accreditation. Of all African countries, Nigeria has gained the greatest reputation in the We should also look at the

counterfeiting of the national currency by the head of state. such as was done in Kenya in the early Nineties, and the involvement of senior officials, including of the central bank, in major financial frauds or money-laundering schemes, such as has been recorded in Nigeria. Cameroon and Kenya.

The contravention of the national law by officials who, in theory, are required to play a central role in upholding their own national laws, sometimes up to and including the head of state, has become sufficiently common for us to need to think seriously about some of the implications. Elements of this can be seen not only in the countries I have mentioned but also in such major powers as China and India. Clearly we are talking about something different from what is most widely regarded as corruption, that is, an official soliciting a hribe for some service or taking a percentage of a public works contract. We could almost call that "classical" corruption.

Corruption implies deviation from a set of norms or laws. But when such activity is hlatant and systematic (and involves those required to uphuld such norms or laws) it can hardly be regarded as a deviation; rather, it has become the oorm in every respect except the letter of the law.

It is apparent that the stuff of power – the accumulation of wealth and the control of legitimate coercion - is closely related to both politics and crime. A politician and a pirate resemble each other quite closely (which does not mean that it is impossible to distinguish between them). I am by no means the first person to point this out (in fact, it is mentioned by that great African intellectual, Saint Augustine). But it is a lesson that is well worth relearning if we are to understand the modern world. We need to understand the accumulation of wealth and power in its historical context rather than to prefer to believe, as we characteristically do at present, that these are temporary deviations from a norm of good governance which is destined to take over

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And the most unbelievably crass and stu-

dalliance with an intern... Whether it's a fan-tasy, a set-up or true; I simply don't care." and not Tammy when she was standing by the tasy, a set-up or true; I simply don't care." and not Tammy when she was standing by from the waist down" and then went on to speculate on the Lewinsky relationship with the deathless observation: "Oh! Imagine swallowing the President's semen."

has come from Gloria Steinem, who bizarrely offers the defence of Bill that Hillary is the ultimate feminist trophy wife: "He's married to a woman who's at least his equal, whom he clearly likes and

So, guys, marry a strong and capable woman, then tomcat up and down the country making a mockery of your marriage and your children. It's not how you conduct

rather than forge their own, like the little They defend him because he shares some of their political ambitions. But they never

These feminists, improbably headed by their "First Lady", have somehow managed completely to separate Clinton's political ambitions from his personal behaviour, even though they've all been raised on the idea that "the personal is political". And now, as the revelations keep on coming, they're having to face up to the kind of man they've been blindly defending. They knew he was a philanderer. They

mistresses, and how, if these womeo didn't support themselves, would he be able to

make sure they were handily tucked away

in discreet hotel rooms?

knew he was a liar. They knew he was a cheat. They knew he was a sexual harasser. an office groper, a seducer of women young enough to be his children. Now, as Clinton continues to refuse to deny Juanita Broaddrick's accusations (not that a deniat from him is worth the air it's breathed into! that he violently raped her in a hotel room two decades ago, it's beginning to dawn on them that he might he a full-blown, all-out

It is this latest criminal act of infidelity. friends are reported to have said, that is the final straw with Hillary. But still some feminists are unwilling to condemn him. Susan Faludi has commented on this latest allegation: "I'm torn between the twin poles of my total feminist commitment to any woman who's been sexually assaulted and the feeling that I may have gotten on a bandwagon to indict someone who may be innocent. Short of stoning him, what is it that people want to do?"

But isn't this the antithesis of feminist thought? Isn't it bad old blokes who are supposed to believe that men should always be given the benefit of the doubt when women cry rape? Il seems to me that far from wanting to stone Bill Chinton, too many people want him to remain as leader of the free world at any cost, and whatever he has done.

That is why Hillary Clinton is a busted flush if she sticks by her husband now. She's always been an odd sort of feminist, carving out a political platform that mainly champions women's rights, on the back of her marriage to a powerful man. By doing this she oot only shores him up, but also shores up the idea that the democratic way is for leaders to be men, with supportive women behind them and at least one child to reassure the public that the country really is run by heterosexuals.

And now that this man stands accused of being the worst kind of beterosexual - a rapist - her credibility as an "international icon for women" - as she has been described surely cannot be sustained as long as she continues to sanction his behaviour by

remaining his wife. doing what she should have done years ago, not just in her marriage but in her career as well. She may strike out on her own and stand in New York for the Senate. She should certainly make this kind of move at last, but she really ought to divest herself of her sleazy husband first. Surely even the citizens of New York aren't so liberal that they wish to be represented by a woman who shares her life with an untried sex offender? And surely, if success is the best revenge, this is the way for her to recover her own dignity, and the dignity of the wayward feminists of America.

RIGHT OF REPLY

PETER **NIXON**



The director of estates for the National Trust answers David Aaronovitch's attack on the charity

WE COULDN'T but smile at David Aaronovitch's "tongue in cheek" idea of changing the National Trust, along with the Royal Family and The Archers, with influencing the psyche of the great British public. As I'm sure David knows, the National Trust was created with a prime purpose of protecting open countryside so that people could enjoy it. lodeed one of our founders. Octavia Hill, was deeply com mitted to safeguarding countryside as "open air sitting rooms." The Trust has a particular remit, as stated in its Acts of Parliament, to ensure that extensive areas of land in its care are kept "as open spaces for the recreation and enjoyment of the public".

We can only estimate the number of people - around 50 million visits - who come to enjoy the coast and country. side in the Trust's care. There is no single gate to walk through and be counted much of the Trust's open countryside and coastlines never closes.

We don't just sit back and wait for people to turn up. In addition to our education, community and volunteering programmes, we organise a bost of countryside activities for all ages such as our "Ugh Bug Safaris" for children and "Birds Before Breakfast" walks for early risers.

The National Trust does all it can as a charity with finite resources to manage and protect the countryside in its care, but our commitment to access comes at a price. For this, we rely on the support of many people, including our 2.6 million members and countless visitors, benefactors, supporters and volunteers. All of these people play an invaluable part in ensuring that the National Trust continues to provide access to the countryside for the benefit of the nation - and that means everyooe.

Don't stand by him, Hillary stop to ask themselves why. Of course Bill Clinton is pro-choice. It appears that he has packed women off to the abortionist himself. Of course he's in favour of female equality in the workplace. How else would he find



DEBORAH ORR

She's a busted flush if she sticks by her husband; her credibility can't be sustained if she sanctions his behaviour

IS IT too much to hope for? Or is Hillary Clinton finally going to do the decent thing and ditch her sexual abuser of a husband? While reports of a trial separation are based firmly on rumour and supposition, we've all seen this pattern before, and not long after an Andrew Morton biography was ublished either

Has Hillary finally realised that she is indeed what she denied herself to be in January1992, before her husband had even become President: "I'm not some little oman standing by her man like Tammy

Hillary later had to apologise to the now dead country star for that remark. And Tammy Wynette isn't the only woman who deserves an apology from Hillary Clinton. Gennifer Flowers, Dolly Kyle, Lencola Sullivan, Jo Jenkins, Connie Hamzy, Sally Perdue, Paula Jones, Monica Lewinsky, Juanita Broaddrick... the long list of women we now know to have been vilified and smeared in the name of the Clintons' joint political career should all be apologised to, not just

by Bill but by Hillary as well.

From the beginning, before Bill Clinton even became President, when Hillary defended him over his relationship with the night-chib singer Gennifer Flowers, the men and women of America have reasoned that if Bill's serial adultery is all right with his wife, then it's no one else's affair. Further, they have believed that it is right-wing conspiracy, not Bill Clinton's own folly, that is the reason for continual rumours threatening to damage his career.

Speculation about Hillary's motives for sticking by the President is beside the point here. Whether Hillary did it because she's madly in love with him, or because she's madly in love with political power, the result has been the same.

Some of the most significant feminists of the US have been falling over themselves for years to justify Bill Clinton's behaviour, seemingly forgetting that in this way they sanction the worst of all male sexual be haviour They have closed ranks to sacrifice the lives and reputations of scores of en on the altar of political expediency.

Susan Faludi, author of Backlash, the est-selling book that warned against the slippage of women's rights in America, commented on the Lewinsky affair with a

touch of backlash herself. "If anything, it sounds like she put the moves on him." Faludi declared, seemingly comfortable with the idea that a man should never, ever be expected to resist sex

when it's offered to him on a plate. Even more dismissive of women was the grandmother of second-wave feminism, Betty Friedan, who offered the opinion that Clinton's "enemies are attempting to bring



Hillary Clinton is now reported to be contemplating leaving her husband and striking out on her own

When the woman who invented sisterbood comes out with remarks like this, it's no wonder that the entire nation felt it was open season on Monica Lewinsky, who has been subject to attacks on her person which suggest that feminism never happened at all.

ened at all. The most pathetic response came from the queen of pretty feminism, Naomi Wolf, who hasn't commented on the matter, feeling it inappropriate for herself to voice any kind of opinion because her own husband, David Shipley, has close links to the Clinton administration.

him down through allegations about some Maybe Hillary should have cited Naomi pid have to be the remarks of the creator

The most self-contradictory comment

yourself that matters, it's whose finger you

Condé Nasty gossip

THEN AT last year's London International Book Fair, rumours began to circulate that the German multimedia giant Bertelsmann had bought Si Newhouse's publishing group Random House, the initial reaction was laughter Apart from anything else, in a business that makes politics look well-plumbed such a deal could not have been discussed, much less consummated, without word having leaked.

By 3pm the news had been confirmed, and it was almost possible to hear the sound of jaws dropping. Even Random House UK's chief executives had had no inkling that anything was up until 48 hours earlier, when a Bertelsmann emissary had summoned each of them to breakfast. Nevertheless, they assured everyone, it was business as usual, and Bertelsmann has a welldeserved reputation for not interfering in the day-to-day running of successful

cal rations.
Which is more than can be said for Samuel I Newhouse Jr. known as Si, who inherited from his father a vast private media empire. The older Newhouse, who died in 1979, "sought profit and an empire to pass on to his sons so that they in turn could pass it on to their sons". The younger Newhouse "lives for the attention, the social cachet. Vogue, The New Yorker, Knopf and Random House have opened doors for the tongue-tied multibillionaire that would otherwise

have slammed shut in his face." Carol Feisenthal's book makes fascinating reading to those with an obsessive interest in the world of New York magazines, for each entrance and exit from Newhouse's Condé Nast stable is lainstakingly detailed. Not for nothing was the firm nicknamed Condé Nasty, for Newhouse appears incapable of putting even senior executives out to grass with any sense of decorum. The venerable Diana Vreeland, who successfully reinvented American Vogue, was dispatched without ceremony. So too Robert Gottlieb, installed in 1985 to



FRIDAY BOOK

CITIZEN NEWHOUSE: PORTRAIT OF A MEDIA MERCHANT

BY CAROL FELSENTHAL, SEVEN STORIES PRESS. £20 edit The New Yorker following its ex- working for a lawyer who had accepted pensive acquisition by Newhouse. His

surprising. The spoon in his mouth was not merely silver but diamond-crusted for, by his birth in 1927, father Sam had made his first fortune with the Staten Island Advance and the Long Island Daily Press. The family was installed in a 14-room Park Avenue duplex which Sam'a wife Mitzi endlessly redecorated in a style favouring Louises XIV and XV.

The eldest of eight in a family of Jewish immigrants, Sam had become the

a 51 per cent stake in a local newspaper successor, Tina Brown, jumped before she could be pushed.

In many ways, Si's behaviour is unsurprising. The spoon in his mouth was ising. By 1916 he had a share of the equipment of the equipme uity and a salary of \$30,000 a year He never looked back, scooping up dozens of metropolitan papers and moving in

early on cable TV. breadwinner at 13. He secured a job as market restaurants. Si had grown up in a bookkeeper for two dollars a week, awe of his father. Mitzi had favoured his

When, in 1959, Sam bought Condé Nast as a 35th wedding anniversary present for Mitzi, who desperately wanted to appear in Vogue (she did, in 1964), his eldest son at last found an interest be-

traditions of American publishing". yond spending the family fortune at up- was hecause there was no heir appar-

FRIDAY POEM

ON DYEING BY MICHAEL SYMMONS ROBERTS

Once we knew it took a boatful of crushed shellfish - murez and purpura to turn one sleeve imperial purple. It took millions of beetles to die cochineal, pulverised madder roots for scarlet, indigo that went blue when it met the air. Without mordants to fix them, all these colours fell to pastel, then to cream. A dress could drain of lilac in an evening. No beauty lasted without ox-blood, oil, oak-galls, urine, alum, salt, shit. Once we knew the cost of dyeing.

This poem comes from Michael Symmons Roberts's second collection, 'Raising Sparks' (Cape, £8)

brother Donald Harvard rejected Si, so too Cornell, and he dropped out of Syracuse. Along the way, he married and divorced, and forged a friendship with

Erica, your trouble has always been that

Following Hillary's example, all of these

women have stood by their left-leaning man,

and for some of the same reasons as

Hillary. They want to hang on to his power,

women they've proved themselves to be.

you're alive only from the waist down.

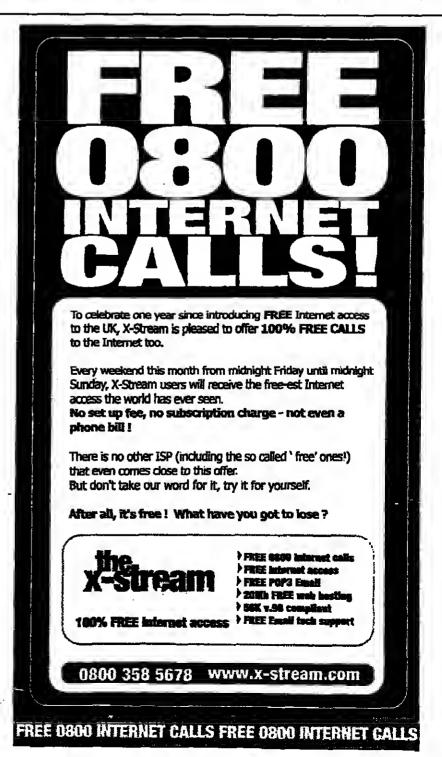
the McCarthy crony Roy Cohn. Si'a 1980 purchase of Random House for \$65m (£38m) would have pleased his father. For a time, his stewardship was approved. He was in every day and got excited by books. But his acmisition of expensive celebrities such as Nancy Reagan and Donald Trump offended staff at what had always been a literary house. The head boncho Bob Bernstein was soon "retired" in favour of Alberto Vitale, characterised by the novelist James Michener as "an able numbercruncher, but not a man reared in the

In the end, he may not have been so good at numbers, when Random House failed to turn a real profit, Newhouse decided to sell. Commentators alleged it ent, although Si's nephew Steven, a Yale graduate, seemed genuinely interested publishing and had been groomed.

In an astonishing oversight, Felsenthal omits to mention Newhouse's purchase in 1987 of the ailing Chatto, Bodley Head and Cape combine, surely the jewel in the crown of British publishing, or the takeover two years later of Century Mutchinson. Fascinating as it often is, her book is an overresearched portrait of the Newhouse magazine empire which, even in New York, is of consequence to very few people. But, beyond the gossip, it reveals in chilling detail the extent to which the rich and powerful play chess with the lives of those who are forced to work for a living. Who cares that reputations, literary and personal, are trashed in pursuit of one man's vainglorious quest? Appearance is everything, but all that glisters is not gold.

LIZ THOMSON

The reviewer is assistant editor of Pub-



Andreas Feininger

"TO ME," wrote Andreas Feininger, "any photograph worth looking at must he a reflection of life, of reality, of nature," Baubaus architect, Life magazine photo-journalist, obsessive chronicler of the natural world - for 60 years Feininger was an incessant maker of photographs.

He was born in Paris in 1906, the son of the painter Lyonel Feininger The family moved to Germany where Lyonel Feininger taught and worked with Marcel Breuer and Joseph Albers at the Bauhaus school of art and design. Andreas joined the Dessau Bauhaus in 1922, and by the late Twenties had qualified as an architect.

But it was photography, not architecture, which was to be his principal preoccupation and he soon hegan to make important technical and aesthetic experiments. Staring transfixed into the camera's lens, modernistically severe in wire glasses and spotlit against a dark backcloth, he made a self-portrait (in 1927) which was an enduring statement of his radical intent.

In 1931, Feininger was working as an architect in Hamburg. He was selling photo stories too, principally through the Berlin agency Dephot. When he moved to Paris in 1932 to work for Le Corbusier, he spent his spare time photographing on the streets, intrigued not by people, but by street signs, doors and shutters, gateways and shop windows.

But the idyll of European modernism ended as the Nazis gained power, and in 1933. Feininger left for Sweden. His first book of photographs, Menschen vor der Comera ("People in Front of the Camera"), appeared in 1934. In Stockholm, he finally abandoned architecture and became a professional photographer.

At first, he photographed buildings and industry, and worked on his photo-book Stockholm, which was published in 1936. Recherché technical processes, including the shimmering reversals of solarisation, the graphicness of reticulation, and the sculptural qualities of bas relief became increasingly intriguing to him. His 1939 book New Paths in Photography (published in the United States after his move to New York he wrote in 1974, "primarily with the in 1939) remains a classic explana-

tion of modernist photo-technique.

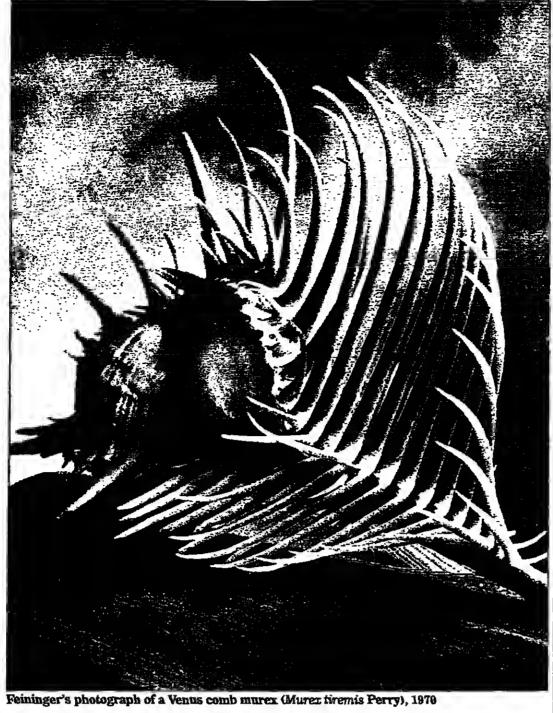
When Feininger arrived in America, he soon found commissions. He worked for the Black Star agency and by 1941 was a photo-journalist on Life magazine. Though early assignments revolved around architecture and industry, it was the work which emerged from his increasing preoccupation with the minutiae of the natural world which established him as a formidable presence in photography.

He suggested stories to Life which manifested his absorption in landscape. He travelled throughout America, to the Rockies, the Ozarks and the Mississippi. His intense study of the natural world had begun in the late Forties; a carpenter ants'

'I look at objects of nature primarily with the eye of the structural engineer who is fascinated by the inter-relationship of function and form'

nest photographed in 1948 becomes a stalagmited monument in a universe of insects, the egg capsules of a whelk, made in the same year, is a convoluted marvel of modern

Form had always intrigued him, and he began to look to the very structure of the animal world for subjects for his photographs. He shone hright light through the skeletal skull of a crucifix catfish and produced a photograph of intense and sculptural strength. He took a section of a horse's hip joint and made a lunar landscape of pitted starkly lit bone. "I look at objects of nature." eye of the structural engineer who



is fascinated by the inter-relationship of function and form."

When he left Life in 1962, Feininger had completed over 300 assignments, shown at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and held his first one-man exhibition at the American Museum of Natural History. Most recently he helped to assemble 80 of his favourite blackand-white photographs, taken be-tween 1928 and 1988, for a retrospective exhibition that has been touring Europe since 1997.

Feininger became highly respected as a writer and exhibitor. During the Sixties alone he pub-

technical publication, The Complete Photographer, looking through it more than 30 years later, its vitality and commitment, the directness of its language, are as striking as ever "To see as the camera sees," he advised, "a photographer must mute all his senses except sight. There is no feeling, meaning, implication or value involved except the graphic values of form and texture, colour, light and dark."

Feininger's technical expertise, aesthetic insight and plain speaking earned him a huge audience. By the end of his life, he had published more than 50 books, technical works lished a book almost every year. In and collections of his own pho-1965, he issued his most important tographs. But he never hecame a February 1999.

guru. His books were for everyone, his photographs elegant, serious studies of a world which we can all recognise. His writing demystifed photography at a time wheo it was fashionable to make it complication and elusive. For Andreas Feininger, the natural world was a marvel of shape and pattern, of endlessly intriguing physical complexity, not a salve for the troubled soul, nor a panacea for angst.

Andreas Feininger, photographer and writer: born Paris 27 December 1906; married 1933 Gertrud Hagg (one son); died New York 18

Philip Donnellan

SERIOUS TELEVISION documentary film-making may be out of fashion in these days of fly-by-night fleabites but what goes round comes round. One day film students will search the BBC archives for the work of Philip Donnellan to find out how to do the job property. Donnellan pioneered the use of the new medium of television to give a voice to ordinary people.

Although his manner and accent were those of the patrician establishment - an essential asset in the internal politics of the BBC's hu-reaucracy - his vision was radical and subversive of the corporation's top-down value system. He respected the subjects of his films. He believed they had something to say that was worth hearing. And he saw his role as a technical enabler, allowing them to say it.

The people he filmed demonstrate his determination to open the ether to voices that usually go unheard - seafarers and fishermen, steelworkers and miners, Irish migrants and travelling people. Asked once what had happened to the creativity of the working class, he replied: "It's in their speech." Such an approach does not endear you to the mandarins; be was seen as a mayerick throughout his working life. But he survived the system for 36 years and managed to make nearly 100 films, most of which were broadcast: some won awards.

Philip Donnellan was born in 1934, the son of a schoolmaster in Reigate. Leaving his boarding school at 16, be trained as a reporter on local newspapers in Surrey, dashing about on a bicycle to see where bombs had landed. War service in the Army - he joined the Seaforth Highlanders on his 18th birthday to get as far away from home as possible - took him to India, Burma, Malaya, China and North Africa with No 5 Commando and ended in Intelligence in Gibraltar.

In 1948 he applied to join the BBC in Birmingham and, although he heard of his father's death on the morning of his interview, he got the job - first as a radio announcer and newsreader, then as a writer and producer of radio features which were carefully scripted and read live by actors in the studio. When portable tape recorders became available in 1964 he moved into the collection and editing of actuality, along with Charles Parker, creator of the sound collage Radio Ballads.

Donnellan moved into television as a documentary producer in 1958, working exclusively on film and developing the contrapuntal use of sound and image. He was known as an extravagant producer, using vast quantities of film stock when only a small amount was shown; he was a perfectionist.

Much of his television work paralleled what Parker was doing in radio - using the words and songs of ordinary working people, directly presented without the intervention of an intermediary commentator, to share their experiences and concerns. It was typical of his openness and honesty that he would show the rew filming - in Brechtian style, he liked to expose the real situation.

When he made The Fight For Shelton Bar in 1973, about the struggle against the threatened closure of a Staffordshire steelworks, he invited the steelworkers into the cutting room to help edit it. The BBC chucked them out on the grounds of editorial independence.

The theatre director Peter Cheeseman applied the same techniques to his work on stage at the Victoria Theatre in Stoke-on-Trent, creating company-devised musical documentaries scripted from interviews with ordinary people. All three men were involved with Ewan Mac-Coll and Peggy Seeger in the folk revival, excavating and celebrating the traditional music and oral heritage of the working class.

work with," Cheeseman says, "but when you made a film with Philip you were his friend for life." His pas-sionate commitment to the subjects he filmed continued after the broadcast - after Where Do We Go From Here? (1967) about travelling people. he became involved in gypsy liaison groups; after making BD8, about the problems of blind people, in 1968, he founded the Shropshire Talking Newspaper for the Blind.

His films reflected his obsessions - with the sociology of industrial life (Joe the Civainsmith, 1958); with marginalised minorities (The Colony, about West Indians in Birmingham 1964); with authority and the individual (Six Men. about men of power in 1965); with imperialism and its consequences (biographies of Nehru, de Gaulle, Nkrumah, T.E. Lawrence); with working-class culture (Holf n Smile from Sloke, about the Potteries painter Arthur Berry, 1976).

But the films he would probably most want to be remembered for are Pure Radio (about hroadcasting history, 1977) and Gone for a Soldier (1980), a two-parter about squaddies in the British Army from 1815 to 1979 which caused a furore for its anti-war empathy with the other ranks.

A tall, imposing figure, in the early days Donnellan was something of a dandy. One close colleague remembers him with a silver-tipped cane saying, "You must come hack to my chambers", which turned out to be a dingy room in a boarding house. Later be changed his image, wearing fishermen's smocks and. intermittently, a beard.

His widow, Jill (they met in 1948 at Bush House, where she was a secretary with the BBC World Service and tater became an announcer herself) says the change of style was a slow evolution. "At first he was absolutely dashing in a tweed suit. everything matched," she says. But when he moved from being a newsreader to a documentary producer he dressed down to hlend with the ordinary people he was interviewing - "That's why people talked to him so well." They moved from the Daily Telegraph to The Guardian at the time of Suez.

"I might have been playing golf and bridge for life if I hadn't met him," Jill says. "But through him I have met an extraordinary range of people." Together they huilt up a collection of about 100 pieces of



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Donnellan: voice of the people

vernacular pottery - handmade or decorated mugs, jugs, loving cups as used for serving drink by ordinary people – which is now lodged on permanent loan at the New Victoria Theatre in North Staffordshire.

Philip and Jill had four children. Tom is a lighting designer in Span.
Rebecca a broadcaster in France.
Philippa a dancer in London and Tom is a lighting designer in Spain: Polly a community worker in Kilkenny. "He was a bloody hard man to live with," Polly says, "but he made me aware of the people around me."

In 1988 he wrote a hook, We Were the BBC, which Jill describes as "a non-Asa Briggs history". It awaits publication. Most of his films are kept by the British Film Institute; those with an Irish theme this family came from Galway) are in the National Film Archive in Dublin

ROBIN THORNBER

"He was bloody impossible to Philip Donnellan, documentary film-maker: born Reigate, Surrey 9 February 1924; married 1952 Gillian Berry (one son, three daughters); died Passage West, Co Cork 15 February 1999.

Professor Margot Jefferys

MARGOT JEFFERYS was one of the tor of Social Research and Senior founders of medical sociology as an academic discipline. Her teaching and research over more than 30 years helped to establish the thinking, now commonplace, that social factors contribute significantly to health.

The seeds of her career were sown in 1953 when she went to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. There she taught what later became known as medical sociology to public health doctors and general practitioners at postgraduate level. Her research into health and social services in Buckinghamshire resulted in the book An Anntomy of Social Welfare Services (1965).

During this period she devel-oped networks of like-minded social scientists, including Ann Cartwright and Raymond Illsley, who gathered together to discuss issues such as social class and health. More formal gatherings at this time were less successful. One participant of the 1956 Medical Research Council-funded meeting at the London School on the role of sociology in medicine commented that medicine was looking for a docile wife but sociology was non-compliant. Jefferys was disappointed but undaunted.

In 1965 she was appointed Direc-

Lecturer in Sociology at Bedford College, London University, where she remained until retirement in 1982. Recognition of her subject came in 1968 with her appointment as the first ever Professor of Medical Sociology. Following the Royal Commission on Medical Education (The Todd Report, 1968), she was invited to develop undergraduate medical sociology in the London medical

schools, now de rigueur nationwide. The masters degree in the sociology of medicine which Jefferys taught from 1969 became nationally and internationally renowned. Many of her students are now key players in medicine or sociology. Later, as a consultant to the World Health Organisation, she helped launch an international research programme in behavioural sciences and the sociology of medical education.

Her work with GPs was of crucial importance, both practical and academic. The seminal 1970 report of the British Medical Association Working Group on Primary Health Care which she chaired was perhaps the most independent of the BMA Planning Unit's reports. From that year to 1982 the DHSS funded her team on primary health care: Jefferys' Rethinking General Practice: dilemmas in primary medical care,

labelled, was also vastly learned.

ceptional collection removed Edey

from the obligations of academic

tenure, museum directorship or auc-

could have been his for the asking.



Jefferys: medical dilemmas

co-authored with Hessie Sachs, appeared in 1983. In November 1988 the Royal College of General Practitioners gave her an Honorary Fellowship: one among many honours accorded to her at home and abroad.

She was born Margot Davies in India in 1916, coming to England aged eight to be educated at Berkhamsted School in Hertfordshire. She had started out as an economic historian, graduating in 1938 (with first class honours) from the London School of Economics. Her first academic ap-

pointment was at Bedford College in 1949, where she researched Mobility in the Labour Market (1954). Taught at LSE by R.H. Tawney and Eileen Powers, she retained throughout her life a strong commitment to tients and doctors alike can be thorough historical scholarship. A deep belief in equality, liberty and justice guided her life, in politics and academe. Events of the

1930s - mass unemployment, hunger marches, the civil war in Spain, Nazi persecution of Jews and political opponents - led her, as many other intellectuals, to the Communist Party. In this cootext she, with James Jefferys whom she married in 1941, became an ordinary worker in munitions factories in Coventry. Margot atayed in the CP until Soviet tanks crushed the Hungarian uprising in 1956 when, along with others who shared her values, she left. Thereafter she worked with former comrades in the "new left" to rethink the way forward.

After her "retirement" in 1982 Jefferys continued her research, publishing the well-received collection on ageing, Growing Old in the Twentieth Century (1989). This research and many national and in-ternational contributions continued while she held a visiting professorship at King's College Centre for Medical Law and Ethics.

Margot Jefferys had avoided the "doctor-bashing" label some sociologists earned - they sometimes thought she had become, in her words. "a doctors' moll". Not so: pagrateful for her ability to offer knowledge in a way the medical profession found salient.

This success was a direct reflection of the person she was: strong, independently minded, generous and loving. She helped many of us, recognising and bringing out hidden talents, sometimes by sharp criticism. offering support in adversity. Although oot a Women's Liberation kind of feminist, she was particularly help-ful to women, conscious of the disadvantages and difficulties we faced. MEG STACEY

Margot Davies, medical sociologist: born Madras 1 November 1916; Lecturer, Department of Public Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine 1953-65; Director of Social Research, Bedford College, London University 1965-82, Senior Lecturer in Sociology 1965-66, Reader 1966-68, Professor of Medical Sociology 1968-82 (Emeritus); married 1941 James Jefferys (two sons; marriage dissolved 1959); died London 3 March 1999.

Edey: a man of habit

Winthrop Edey

WEALTHY ECCENTRICS are as designing oil refineries and Amerirare in America as they are com- ca's atomic-bomb plants. Edey was monplace in Europe; a Puritan cul- known as "Kelly", a diminutive of the ture ensures that even the best very Kellogg which had made his life Beautiful Boys. This was in 1964 the endowed remain workers rather of leisure and connoisseurship posthan playboys. Winthrop Edey, how-sible. Kellogg's daughter, Edey's ever, was an exemplar of the Man-mother, a mainstay of the Associahattan eccentric who, like many so tion for Voluntary Surgical Contraception, set up the first outpatient Edey's expertise was in antique vasectomy clinic. Edey himself clocks and watches, and he was a grew up on Long Island, attended

nonpareil scholar and collector. The Amherst College and the Institute of family funds which bankrolled his ex- Fine Arts in New York. He was equally knowledgeable about ancient Egypt, 18th-century literature and the history and praction-house employment, any of which tice of photography. His social set included as many louche avant-gardists His middle initial. K. honoured his as elderly timepiece dealers, queens grandfather Morris Kellogg, who had of the New York night along with which had occupied him since the age

included him in his 40-minute blackand-white silent film The 13 Most same year Warhol's painting The 13 Most Wanted Men was removed from the New York World's Fair.

Edey was a man of habit, not just that of collecting. He maintained an impeccable townhouse on the Upper West Side exactly as it had been in the late 19th century, including working gas jets. He used to stroll in Central Park wearing plaid Bermuda shorts, short black socks and brown wingtips. He awoke at precisely five in the afternoon.

At night he worked oo his clocks and his diary, an obsessive task won gargantuan sums of money antiquarians. He knew the notorious of six. This massive, many-volumed

Robert Mapplethorpe; Andy Warhol work covering more than 50 years promises to be a revelatory document and even a potential bestseller, covering everything from downtown 1960s Bohemia to travels of 19th-century leisureliness. Edey took with him a large and ancient camera; his interest in photography included taking his own old-fashioned images as well as collecting Man Ray.

A hint of Edey's impeccably recherche prose can be gained from the two books published in his lifetime. French Clocks (1967) was one of the first books in English on the subject: A knowledge of French clock-making involves the study of many different sub-jects: cabinetmaking, bronze-casting, the manufacture of machinery, the evo-lution of theories of time, sculpture, even porcelain, the composition of met-als, and some astronomy.

This slim collector's guide also carries several plates of such rare clocks from his own collection as a Green Horn wall bracket by Gille Lainé from 1745, a Tête de Poupée by Balthazar Martinot from 1680 and a Pendule Religieuse by Gosselin from 1660.

In 1982 the Frick Collection mounted the first important exhibition of French clocks in the United States. Edey was the guest curator and nine of the finest works were from his collection, though his name was modestly omitted from the list of lenders. It is to the Frick that Edey has left 39 pieces from his collection of around 60 clocks and watches, a donation of incomparable magnitude, as well as his diary. In the book American Collections, Edey demon- February 1999.

strated his taste in prose as well as timepieces:

After the Revolution, clock cases were less often worthy of the best move-ments, and less often the carefree sumptuous objects that they had been. They gradually lost the fabled sweetness of the ancien régime, taking on in its place a barsh chill,

Elsewhere in this essay, Edey's words could serve as his own epitaph: Thus the market was much reduced, and a certain spirit of taste was killed, a taste that had taken centuries of increasingly refined living to develop.

ADRIAN DANNATT

Winthrop Kellogg Edey, clock collector and diarist: born New York of the Frick show, French Clocks in 18 June 1937; died New York 22

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LIKE MILLIONS of other radio listeners in the South East, I grew up with Adrian Love. He was part of life in London. Capital Radio saw to that, and later, his show Love in the Afternoon on BBC Radio 2 became a regular date for many nationwide.

the London station Capital Radio from 1976, though, he was the firm but fair presenter of a nightly phone in which was compulsive listening. He was no "mister nasty", a style which was in vogue among so many of his phone in host colleagues at the time, but a man who seemed to talk just like the rest of us. Idiosyncratic perhaps, but he connected with people, and that was his strength. It did not matter whether it was a top international celebrity (and he knew many, as he often reminded us) or the postman delivering letters to his bouse near Edenbridge, in Kent, Love got close to people.

He coined a phrase on that programme at Capital that became the ultimate radio brand - to listeners it came to sum up the whole show. "Anna and the doc" was his description for the problem phone in he presented with the yony aunt Anna Raeburn and the doc-tor, whose name to this day cludes me. The show was an unforgettable insight into the lives of others.

To Anna Reeburn it was unforgettable for other reasons. She recalls her first show with Love, who was driving her to despair with his fidgeting. At the end, she laid into him: "While you are clicking and twitching, I am trying to do something for people." His reply was typically simple and disarmingly honest: You do realise I am terrified of you, don't you?"

Meeting him was a bit of a shock Listening on air, one built up a mental picture of a big man with that amazing vocal characteristic, a strange mix of sandpaper and fresh boney, with a pair of lungs that had fought the good fight with cigarettes and won. The reality was somewhat different. He was a tall lean gan who looked as though he could spend a week in a fast-food restaurant

without showing signs of overeating.

The son of the bandleader Geoff Love, Adrian was born, in 1944, into a showbiz family. He told stories of how he entered the "business" as a child and never left it. He began his broadcasting career with the pirate radio station Radio City in 1966 and moved to the BBC Light Programme the next year, followed by work with the World Service, LBC and UBN (United Biscuits Network, the "biscuit factory" station, where he worked with Nicky Horn, Roger Scott and other radio icons).

Adrian Love



Love in the studio at the launch of Classic FM in 1992

It would be easy to think that he had led a charmed life from the outset, but life was no picnic for Love. After a move from Capital to an award-winning show on Radio 1 he fell from grace; he was sacked in 1982 for presenting his show while drunk. He made no secret of his alcohol addiction, and even shared his emerience with listeners.

He was a family man, and he gave credit to his wife Ros for getting him through the addiction that nearly firished him off. He frequently shared per-

sic FM was launched in September 1992. In more recent years he worked for the local BBC radio station Southern Counties Radio, broadcasting to Surrey and Sussex.

Love had an inner strength which you could bear on the air, and which belped him through his alcohol addiction. Unknown to many, he used that strength to help others, through charity fundraising. It also showed in his unnerving enthusiasm to get back to work after a car accident in December 1997 that led sonal moments from his family life on to continued ill-health. Simon Bates, a

He had an amazing vocal characteristic, a strange mix of sandpaper and fresh honey

came part of the bigger family he created with his listeners.

He moved from Love in the Afternoon on Radio 2 to Jazz FM. He then became part of the starting line-up when Clas-

air, Ros and Love's three daughters be- former colleague from Radio 1 described Love's burning enthusiasm for his radio programmes as "exhausting for everyone else".

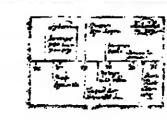
> During what his colleages hoped would be his recuperation from his op

eration, a couple of us went to visit him at his house. We expected to see a man who was somewhat frail, but he would have none of it, he was full of life: "OK boys, what's the gossip, and when can I get back on the air? Let's start with the goes first."

Adrian Love did get back on the air, but it was not long before his hugs, weakened by a lifetime of asthma attacks, took him off again. He will be remembered by colleagues at Southern Counties as the consummate professional - especially when things didn't quite go the way they were planned - for being unflappable in the face of adverse odds, and for being a friend, not just to those who knew him, but to the listeners, who loved him. As one listener put it, "He was a friend to everybody. I never met him, I didn't even know what he looked like, but he was like a best friend to me."

Adrian Love, disc jockey: born York 3 August 1914; three times married (two daughters, one stepdaughter); died Tunbridge Wells, Kent 10 March 1999.

CHRIS LOVEDER



TECHNOLOGICAL NOTES

Computers with no common sense

WITH COMPUTER power doubling every 18 months (Moore's Law), some experts in artificial intelligence are now bragging that by 2050, robots will surpass the intelligence of bumans. They boast that their creations may one day treat us like pets, too feeble and stand to take care of ourselves. Robots will inherit the earth, and perhaps place us in zoos. The scientists at Carnegie-Mellon Institute. with the largest robotics laboratory in the world, even claim that we are creating our own Darwinian successors, that it's our evolutionary duty to prepare the way for super-intelligent robots.

But not so fast! The rosy claims of these mathematicians are not without some merit, but they have been made before, with laughable results. As a physicist. I must note that there are a few tiny roadblocks in their predictions, such as the laws of physics.

as if it's a law of nature.

It's true that Moore's Law has successfully predicted the staggering growth of computers for the past 50 years. This means that every Christmas, our computer gadgets are almost twice as powerful as the previous year's. It's also true that our brains, even when daydreaming, compute at more than 500 trillion bytes per second. By Moore's Law, our chips should hit about 500 trillion bytes per second by 2050.

dous roadblocks. For instonce. Moore's Law will collanse way before 2050. In fact, by 2020, transistors will become so small, they will approach the size of DNA coils. Unfortunately, silicon is not structurally stable at such tiny distances. Silicon Valley may become a Rust Relt by 2020 - the Age of Silicon will end, causing chaos in the

After 2020, physicists will have to replace silicon with very speculative designs. such as computers which compute on laser beams. DNA molecules, protein molecules, or single electrons. There's also the ultimate computer, the "quantum computer", which is so advanced that no prototypes even exist. These are all

highly risky designs, so all

computer business.

bets are off after 2020. Furthermore, scientists have not solved the problem of "common sense". Computers don't know the things that even children know, Computers don't know that water is wet, that animals don't like pain, that mothers are older than their children, that twins age at the same rate, and that when you die you don't come back the next day. How do we know these common-sense things? By experience. But that's precisely what computers don't

have. Worse, mathematicians

But there are also tremen- fore a robot can reason like a child. This staggering amount of common series has effectively stopped progress in artificial intelligence for the past 20 years

Finally, computers don't see very well. One of the most advanced robots is the Mars Rover currently on the planet Mars. Although the Mars Rover captured the imagination of unlique of people around the world. :t has the intelligence of a retarded cockroach. Even a cockrageli knows how to the when spotted on your latchen table. If a Martian were to swat the Mars Rover with the temtacle, the Rover would take several bours to realise that the tentacle was not a rock!

This is out to say that we won't have computer marvels. by 2050. By then, chips will cost a fraction of a penny, the cost of bubblegum wrappers. We will have computers in our watches, clothes, jewellery, furniture, walls, appliances, and perhaps inside our bodies. And we will talk to them in English, albeit a highly stylised and simple English, But don't expect to have robot butlers or maids by 2050,

In other words, don't worry; the mathematicians are wrong. Humanity is not doomed to live in a cage after 2050, (Unless, of course, we physicists can invent the quantum computer . . .)

believe that several hundred Michio Kaku is the author of million statements of com-Visions' (Oxford University mon sense are required be-

GAZETTE

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

DEATHS

WILLANS: James Lindsay, aged 88. Died peacefully or ? March at the John Radcliffe Hospital. Oxford, after a short illness. Much loved father of Lindsay, Sarah and Jolyon, steplather of Mary, Richard and Stephen Castie, grandfather Funeral at Oxford Crematorium, 3pm Wednesday 17 March. Family flowers only ant donations for the John Radcliffe Hospital Charitable Fund may be sent to Reeves & Pain Funeral Directors, 28 Ahingdon Road, Oxford OX1 4TE. A Thankspiving Service will be held at Rugby School at 2.30pm on 24 April.

IN MEMORIAM

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, In memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forthcoming mar-riages, Marriages), which must be submitted in writing, are charged at 510 a line. VAT extra. Always include a dartime telephone number.

The Independent's switchhoard

BIRTHDAYS

diplomat, 69; Dr Giovanni Agnelli, chairman, Istituto Finanziario Industriale, 78; Mr Edward Albee, playwright, 71; Mr Ronald Alley. artist and former Keeper of Modern Art, Tate Gallery, 73: Mrs Virginia Bottomley MP, 51; Mr Norbert Brainin, violinist, 76; Sir Geoffrey de Bellaigue, former Director of the Royal Collection, 68; Mr Peter Gwynn-Jones, Garter Principal King of Arms, 59; Lord Hogg of Cumbernauld, former MP, 61; Mr Philip Jones, former principal, Trinity College of Music, London, 71; Mr David Mellor QC, former MP, 50; Miss Liza Minnelli, actress and singer, 53; Mr David Mlinaric, interior decorator, 60; Mr Nicholas Montagu, chairman, Board of Inland Revenue, 55; Mr Roland Moyle, barrister and former government minister, 71; Mr Patrick Procktor, painter, 63: Mr Raiph Shapey, composer and conductor, 78; Miss Gudrun Ure, actress, 73; Miss Elizabeth Vaughan, operatic soprano.

Cohse, 73; Mr David Wilmot, chief constable, Sir Antony Acland, Provost Greater Manchester Police, 56; Miss Googie Withers, of Eton, and former

ANNIVERSARIES

actress, 82.

Births: André de Lenotre. landscape architect, 1613; Thomas Augustine Arne. composer, of "Rule, Britannia", 1710; Vaslav Fornich Nijinsky, dancer, 1890; Jack (Jean-Louis) Kerouac, novelist 1922. Deaths: Frans van Mieris the Elder, painter, 1681; Anne Frank, young Jewish diarist, at Bergen-Reisen 1945 On this day: the Bermudas became an English colony, 1509; the foundation stone of the Australian capital Canberra was laid, 1913; in Britain a 30mpb speed limit was imposed for cars in built-up areas, 1935. Today is the Feast Day of St Alphege of Winchester, St Bernard of Capua, St Maximilian of Theyeste, St Paul Aurelian or of Leon, Saints Peter, Gorgonius and Dorotheus, St Seraphina or Fina and St Theophanes the Chronicler.

LECTURES

British Museum: Helen Glaister "The Female Form: the contrasting styles of India and China", 11.30am;

Rowena Loverance, "Images of the Virgin Mary, 2.30pm. National Gallery: Norman Coady, "Cats and Dogs (ii): Veronese, Christ addressing a Kneeling Woman", 1pm. Victoria and Albert

Museum: Frances Musker, "Dress and Textiles in the 17th Century", 2pm. Centre for Regional Studies, Anglia Polytechnic University, Cambridge: Dr J. Kemble, "Researching Place

PROFESSOR NICHOLAS KURTI

Names", 6.30pm.

A memorial meeting for Professor Nicholas Kurti CBE FRS will be held on Saturday 27 March at 3pm in the Sheldomian Theatre, Oxford.

> SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in Londoo at 5.45pm. United Synagogues: 0181-343 2089. Federation of Synagogues 0181-202 2283. Union of Liberal oisi-202 2263, Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues 0171-580 1863, Reform Syna-gogues of Great Britain: 0181-249 4731, Spanish and Portuguese Jews Congregation: 0171-259 2373, New London Synagogue (Masorti): 0171-328 1026.

ROYAL **ENGAGEMENTS**

The Queen visits HM Customs & Excise VAT Collection Centre

in Southend. The Duke of Edinburgh visits Keymed (Medical and Industrial Equip-ment) Ltd in Southend; and, as ment Ltd in Southend; and, as Chancellor, Cambridge University, attends a reception and din-ner at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visit South East Essex College, Southend; visit Basildoo District Council offices, Basildon, to mark the 50th Anniversary of the foundation of Basildon New Town; visit the Towngate Theatre in Basildon Centre, Basildon; and visit the newly erected Beil Tower of St Mar-tin's Church, Basildon, and attend a service of thanksgiving at the church to mark the 50th anniversary of the foundation of Basildon New Town. The Duke Basildon New Town. The Duke of York, Patron, Badminton Society of England, attends the 1999 All England Badminton Championship at the National Indoor Arens, Birmingham. The Duke of Kent, Colonel, Scots Guards, visits the Guards Training Company at the Infantry Training Centre, Catterick, North Yorkshire.

considered appropriate for him.

The appellants appealed to a Special Educational Needs CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mount-ed Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am: 1st Battation the appellants. Coldstream Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham The appellants appealed to Palace, 11.30am, band provided

tional needs case

AWOL, ANTHONY Burgess's

A Mouthful Of Air surfaced

in my box of cookery books

and opened at page 185:

we still have the Ger-

manie gar in 'gorlic'."

FRIDAY LAW REPORT

12 MARCH 1999

Catchpole and another v Buckinghamshire County Council

Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice Thorpe and Lord Justice Sedley) 9 March 1999

and another

tribunal bad been io error, but upbeld the respondent's submission that a correct appreciation of the law could have made no difference to the outcome of the appeal before the tribunal. He therefore dismissed the appeal. The appellants appealed.

Nicholas Bowen (Teacher Stern Selby) for the appellants: Peter Oldham (Buckinghamshire County Council\ for the respondent.

Lord Justice Sedley said that the respondent contended that the Act contained a selfcontained code which gave parents much firmer rights. and which made section 9 redundant, in special educational needs cases.

Paragraph 3t31 of Schedule 27 made it mandatory for the statement of special educational needs to name the school preferred by the parents unless it was unsuitable for the child or incompatible with the efficiency of the school or the efficient use of resources.

Although that was in far stronger terms than the provisions of section 9 of the Act. which established no more than an obligation to have regard for a general principle of parental preference, qualified likewise by considerations of efficieocy and expense, paragraph 3(1) of Schedule 27 contained the limitation that the expressed preference for # child with special educational needs had to be for a school in the stale sector, whether mainstream or special. That limitation did not, however, hy necessary implication exclude the broader principle expressed in section 9

There was nothing in the Act to suggest that the general principle that pupils were to be educated in accordance with the wishes of their parents was intended to be disregarded in relation to children with special educational needs. The global effect of the Act was that in special educational needs cases a duly expressed parental preference for a state sector school was binding in the absence of a disqualifying factor, while an expressed preference for an independent school was to be considered, together with the reasoos for it, in the light of the principle enunciated in section 9.

Notwithstanding that, the judge had been right in the present case to hold that the error of the tribunal, occurring as il had in a decision which had fully addressed the educational merits of the both the appellants' and the respondent's choices, could not have affected the outcome of the appeal.

KATE O'HANLON

CALLS TO THE BAR

Lincoln's Inn Lincom's Inn
Timothy Paul Maxied; 4/o Sinnappan
Dorary; Lesley Jeon Harwood: Abul
Monan's Shahjahan; Dr Simon John
Sievenson; Mary Regina Gibbons;
Chong Shin Vir, Ruly Selwanyagam;
Andrew Charles Bury; Penelope Jona
Richardson; David Andrew Blythin;
Harvon Rashid; Roderick Ian James;
James Brendon Corrist; Quim Alexander Hawkins; Fruncacca Maria Loy;
yeany Yinn Hein Choo; David Allen
Jor Green; Barry Ian Torrens; Hark
Eliward Saunders; Nell Marian Ashley;
Adeola Ohjumohe Adeon; Aaron Wong
Kang Way; Robert James Teuere Cruig,
Aligur Rahman Chowdhury; Nigel
David Harrington Edwards; Elizabeth um; Ryan Jerome Thompson; Jane nvers; Maithew Alvier Lloren; Zainn edin Hathm Jaffarji; S.M. Athur

62: Lord Wallace of

Saltaire, Reader in Interna-

tional Relations, London

School of Economics, 58;

former general secretary,

Mr David Oliver Williams,

Bestable.
Simon Joseph Shannon; Michelle Louise Brewnt; Ranjeet Dulay; Timothy James Clamente Grey; Devid Ericson Grand; Dele Robert Schivan; Lucy Adelaide Deniele; Victoria Robertson; Sussa Dame Darlington-Pearce. In absentize Mark Robert Seepersad

Middle Temple

Giles Adam Stanler, Seng Hong Yeo,
James Prederich Percival; James
Caristopher Stonr, Kenneth Christopher
Fregerty: Emma Louise Kurzner,
Matthew Hall,
Harry Francis Gregory Mount, Simon
James Cridiant, Kevin Molity, Lella
Penelope Pilarim; Archana Sinha;
Caryne Sue Lynn Say, Emma Jayte
Messenger, Nasreen Akhter Tracy,
David Arnott Craig McDowell; Helen
Louise Waltchusus; Lauren Janel Beck,
Rasina Rubin Mohideen; Ian William
Carnochan.

Gray's Lun

Derek Eurl Wallace; Ceorge Charles Wellcaley Spencer; Deirdre Maura Robinson;
Glende Mary Rogers, Nicole Nafacha
Alben; Ermma Louise Fiedge: Jayanthi
Mahalingam; Maria-Taresa Espandola;
Sara Phillip: Jonathan Robert Pani Rogers; Edward Commun; Andreas Toomas;
Semantha Nimali de Silve; Adam Anthony Sazin; Pani Jellery Scothern; Gareth
Rees; Clare Judith Woodfirch; David William Gibson; Simoo Ash; Simoo Thomas
Carras; Jonathan Naylor Sharpe; Galre
Boslock; James Richard Crawfurth Michael Wyn Jones; Gibert John Marcas; Staries Erlen Weiner; Richard Andrew Keish
Goddard; David Vanghan Lewis; Sarah
Losime Peters; Michael James Bradley.

by the Irish Guards.

garlic, n.

This ran in the great Burgess's blood (language, and gariic). The OED unsoundly defines life's joy as an "acrid" taste but does note the compound of the

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.

Parental preference was not excluded

THE OBLIGATION on a local education anthority to have regard to parental preference with regard to choice of school, imposed by section 9 of the Education Act 1996, was not excluded in the case of children with special edu-

cational needs by paragraph 3 of Schedule 27 to the Act. The Court of Appeal upheld the decision of the High Court, dismissing the appellants' appeal against a decision of a Special Educational Needs Tribunal that their son should attend a mainstream school maintained by the local education authority rather than an in-

dependent school of their choice. The appellants' son was se-riously dyslexic and had special educational needs. The respondent local education authority, in its statement of special educational needs made pursuant to s 324 of the Education Act 1996, refused to specify the school which the appellants

Tribunal against that refusal, and the tribunal concluded that the child should attend a mainstream secondary school maintained by the respondent, rather than an independent boarding school favoured by

the High Court on the ground that the tribunal had erred in law in holding that section 9 of the 1996 Act, which provided for the expression by a parent of a preference as to the school at which he wished his child to be educated, had no application in a special educa-

The judge agreed that the

WORDS

CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE

Old English for spear and leek (as our century shows, German means spear man),

Wilson has triumphed on Masterchef. Cut from the broadcast was Lovd Grossman's remark that he could eat her fried garlic "by the bucketful, like popcorn": peel many bulbs, blanch in water: drain: repeat: blanch in stock: mix egg, flour, Meanwhile, the Slavonic breadcrumbs: fry in sunscholar and New Statesman flower oil and turn. Ah!

food correspondent Bee

Bye-bye Cindy, Linda, Christy and now Naomi... They say the supermodel era is over. What can they mean? By Susannah Frankel

Never say never again

aomi Campbell: The Last Supermodel?" ponders the March issue American Vogue, in a more measured fashion than the majority of the press, which has been revelling in melodramatic tales of Camphell's demise this week. It is not insignificant that it is this particular magazine that publishes the full story: a model's status can rise and fall in its glossy pages overnight. What American Vogue says, goes.

According to Vogue, then, Campbell, who has been modelling for 13 years, has just signed her first worldwide cosmetics contract with Wella - which will doubtless turn out to be more lucrative, and certainly a whole lot easier, than working the international runways, despite the fact that she reportedly earns \$41,000 (£65,000) a show. She has recently finished work on a film, the Canadian independent Prisoner of Love, due for release later this year. For the past two years, Campbell has also worked with Nelson Mandela to raise awareness for his Children's Fund. He has described the model as his honorary granddaughter.

It may all sound like the stuff of a particularly cliched TV mini-series but Campbell has also - and to her credit - continually spoken out against racism in the fashion industry; compared to her (white) supermodel sisters she has graced far fewer covers and has failed - until Wella came along - to sign up with a cosmelics company. As a catwalk model, unlike some of her less politically aware contemporaries, she resists being lumbered with the token "exotic" outfit.

So why does the world love to hate Naomi Campbell? There are the legendary tantrums, of course. She famously attacks unsuspecting women who cross her path, from other models who are allocated outfits she'd like to wear to her former are headed for troubled times.



Devon Aoki is not nearly as expensive as Naomi Campbell, nor as difficult

personal assistant (of nine days, last autumn) Georgina Galanis, who is filing a \$2m lawsuit against her. claiming Campbell grabbed her by the throat, punched her and hit her on the head with one of her many mobile phones. These are hardly enough to justify the glee with which the media reports that she and the likes of Cindy Crawford, Christy Turlington and Linda Evangelista,

At the end of last year, People magazine splashed the words "Supermodel Meltdown" across its cover - the British press followed suit. The story was that magazines were relying on celebrities rather than models to boost circulation. American Vogue had Oprah Winfrey and Hillary Clinton; arch-rival Horper's Bazaar preferred girlfriendand-boyfriend team Cameron Diaz and Matt Dillon. In the UK, Martine McCutcheon is Marie Claire's March cover girl, soon to be superseded by Monica Lewinsky shot by Patrick Demarchelier, the man responsible for the British Vogue cover of Diana, Princess of Wales.

That is only one side of the story, however This month, Kate Moss who, like Campbell, is often described as the last of the supermodels, is on the cover of every magazine from W to Dozed & Confused, and from ES to The Face. Cindy Crawford, Campbell, Linda **Evangelista and Christy Turlington** were on the cover of last year's bestselling issue of American Elle.

It is ironic that the most recent Fall of the Supermodel story was generated by a reported rift between the designer Donatella Versace and Naomi Campbell, Campbell - who has appeared in every Versace show since Gianni Versace died in July 1997 - was conspicuous by her absence at the Versace shows in Milan last week. The pair have by now made their peace, however, which is entirely predictable, The twice-yearly collections held in New York, London, Milan and Paris are famous for generating just this type of spat. Campbell has seemed on fine form on the catwalks for both Antonio Berardi and Louis Vuitton.

It must have been tough on her, none the less, despite claims that it was her own decision not to appear and especially as Gianni Versace was the man responsible for the rise of the supermodel and their celebrity status in the first place. Versace realised that if he boasted even one



Out with the old: Evangelista, Crawford, Campbell, Turlington - Versace, 1991; in with the new, Devon at Versus, left Chris Moore

big-name star on his catwalk exclusively, the column inches it would generate would be worth far more than their weight in gold.

The moment that encapsulates the supermodel phenomenon at its most brazenly glamorous is best at-tributed to Gianni Versace. When he sent Campbell, Turlington, Evangelista and Crawford down the runway en masse, miming the words to George Michael's "Freedom" (they had recently starred in the video) in March 1991, he made fashion history. Here were four women who were as self-confident as they were beautiful; model role models, they exuded money, power and self-confidence in a milieu that is famous for its exploitation of young women.

This precedent was set in the Sixties. Whereas in the Fifties, modelling was the preserve of aristocratic women making a respectable living as a prelude to finding wealthy husbands, by the next decade, cheeky chappie photographers such as David Bailey and Terence Donovan

preferred the look of underdeveloped, even prepubescent women. The model fared no better in the

Seventies. The fresh-faced, girlnext-door looks of the Shrimp and her ilk were replaced by the more decadent likes of Jerry Hall - discovered when an agent placed his card in her bikini bottoms at Cannes - and Marie Helvin. This was the decade of the shark agent, when drugs took hold of the industry - in particular, cocaine. It was not until the Eighties that

the supermodel was born - and the media's love-hate relationship with her began. Designers recognised their potential, the media couldn't get enough of them and, as still very young girls, they unsurprisingly lapped up the attention. The supermodels turned the image of model as (fashion) victim on its head, demanding inflated sums of money and terrorising designers, agents, photographers, hairdressers and make-up artists alike. They said things like "I don't get out of bed introduced, sex to the equation - for less than \$10,000 a day" (Linda—els are the order of the day. Karen often, it seems, at first hand. Their Evangelista, 1990). Her friend Elson, Erin O'Connor and Devon

that this throwaway comment was intended to be ironic.

None the less, only a few seasons later, a backlash ensued and the very people who made these women stars in the first place (Versace is a notable exception) couldn't wait to slap them down. They were simply too young, too beautiful and too rich to be tolerated. They had risen to fame in the Eighties, the most ego-driven, power-thrusting era of them all. By the mid-"caring sharing" Nineties, the less in-your-face superwaif Kate Moss was hot property. She was less ohviously manufactured, skinny, stringyhaired and looked prepubescent (again). The supermodels still loomed large, however, even if the media's excuse was negative publicity. Naomi Campbell, in particular,

By the time President Clinton called attention to the heroin chic controversy a few years later, fashion had moved on again, For the past few seasons, more anonymous modaesthetic was less wholesome: they Christy Turlington claims to this day Aoki - the latter (pictured left) is the warts and all

continues to do so.

new face of Donatella's Versus line - are neither as expensive as Naomi Campbell, nor as difficult. They represent a less predictable sort of beauty than their supermodel predecessors.

Fresher on the scene, however, the more obviously lovely Gisele and Carmen Kass do more resemhle the Campbells and Crawfords 4: of this world. None is likely to become a household name, howeverthe Zeitgeist wouldn't accommodate it - which is why magazines, both here and ahroad, are retracing the celebrity route.

That leaves Naomi - and only Naomi - as the last supermodel to regularly appear at the shows in person. Her contemporaries prefer to leave the collections to young hlood, taking the world hy storm with the odd, exclusive, photographic appearance.

Campbell said this week that, these days, she sometimes feels like "Grandma" on the catwalk, a poignant observation for a woman who's still only 28. Despite that we simply can't get enough of her -

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Public Notices



THE RAILWAYS ACT 1993 Application far Liceace Exemption by AHC (Warehousing) Limited ("the Applicant") Compusy Registration Number: 1670942 Principal address of the Applicant:

> Mathieson Road West Bank Dock Estate Cheshire, WAS ONX Directors of the Applicant: Jumes Harold Quinn Edith Ouinn William Frederick Coleman Kathleen Coleman Shirley Janette Pettit Angela Collette Trevett Andrew James Quinn

Patrick Alaa Davenport

The Rail Regulator hereby gives notice in accordawith section 7 (4) of the Railways Act ("the Act") 1993 with section 7 (4) of the Railways Act ("the Act") 1993 that he proposes to grant the Applicant an exemption from the requirement to be authorised by licence to operate the network comprised within the Widnes International Rail Freight Terminal, on the grounds that he does not consider it appropriate for the provisions of the Act to be applied to such a railway used. Any person who wishes to make any appropriation or objection with security to the representation or objection with respect to the proposed exemption should send such representation

Passenger Services Group, Office of the Rail Regulator, 1 Waterhouse Square, 158-142 Holborn, London ECIN 2TQ past later than 9 April 1990.

A plan showing the extent of the railway to which the A plan should be seen to the always to which the proposed network licence exemption applies is available for inspection at the above address between 10.00 and 16.00 hours on any working day. Dated 12 March 1999.

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE REGIONS FOB CONFIRMATION OF BYELAWS RELATING TO THE LTS

Names is hereby given pursuant to section 67 of the Transport Act 1962 and section 129 of the Railways Act 1993 that LTS Rail Limited have made by class relating to the LTS Rail Limited railway and intend to apply to the Secretary of State for Environment. Transport and the Regions for this confirmation.

A copy of the hyclaws in respect of which application for confirmation is to be made can be inspected free of charge for a period of 28 days starting from the date of this notice appearing, between the hours of 900 and 1000 Menday to Friday at the LTS Rail Limited registered office. Central House, Chilown Read, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SSI LAB and from the booking offices at Southend-on-Sea, Essex SSI LAB Station, Grays Station and Fenchatch Street Station and a copy thereof can be obtained on payment of a charge of 50p either by attending or by anting to any of those places.

During the 23 day period any person affected by the new by claws may make representation to the Secretary of State for Environment Transport and the Regions by writing to him at the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions, Zone 3.73 (Bre-laws), Great Mirester House, 76 Marsham Street, London SWIP 4RP. Owed Friday (2th March, 1949).

Company Secretary for and on behalf of LTS Rail Limited, Central House, Cistown Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 1AB.

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY TO THE SECRETARY
OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT
AND THE REGIONS FOR CONFIRMATION OF BYELAWS
RELATING TO THE WEST ANGLIA GREAT NORTHERN
RAILWAY LIMITED RAILWAY
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RAILWAY LIMITED RAILWAY
NOTICE TO THE WEST ANGLIAN OF THE PROPERTY AND THE PRO

RAILWAY LIMITED RAILWAY

Notice is bereby given pursuant to section 67 of the Transport Act 1962 and section 129 of the Railways Act 1993 that West Anglia Great Northern Railway Limited have made byelaws relating to the West Anglia Great Northern Railway Limited railway and insend to apply to the Secretary of Stare for Environment, Transport and the Regions for his confirmation. A copy of the beckers in respect of which application for confirmation is to be made can be inspected free of charge for a period of 28 days starting from the date of the notice appearing, between the hours of 9.00 and 16.00 Monday to Friday at the West Anglia Great Northern Railway Limited registered office. Heritord House, I Cranswood Street, London ECUV 9GT, and at the offices of the Customer Services Manager, Station Road, Cambridge CBL 21W, the Station Supervisor, West Anglia Great Northern Railway, Liverpool Street Station and a copy thereof can be obtained on powered of a charge of 5th cithet by attending or by writing to any of those places.

During the 28 day cert of any person affected by the new byeliaws thay made representation to the Secretary of State for Environment, Transport and the Regions by writing to any at the Parament of Environment, Transport and the Regions by writing to any at the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions, Zone 373 i 18ve-4;vvt, Great Minster House, 78 Marchan St. Linkers SW19 4RP.

Company Secretary for and on behalf of West Anglia Great Northern Rathay Limited, Heriford House, I Cramwood Street, London ECIV 907

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TO ALL WISDAI IT MAY CONCERN I Nabit Mankannus Co Puzzliapress I Restaurants London, Co Puzzliapress I Restaurants London, Co Recklar Todaing State, Lensai Road, London W10 58N Lanng doming the past set mentes carried on the trade or calking of Area Manager DO HERER CVF VOU NOTICE that it 0 m intertion to apply at the transfer seasons for the Pero, Seasonal Division of Richmond Anno Thames Magdustaes' Court, The Court House, Parkshot, Richmond, Surrey, Tw9 18F on 1 April 1999 at 10,00m for the grant to are of a provious all society increases and seasons of all descriptions for comangition or and off the previous should the almost and state at Red Lon Hunce, Red Lon Street, Richmond, Servey, Tw9 18W and to be known by the sign of "Nezdicapress" which said premises are counted by Wombounte London, 1991 E.

ONEN LENGER CUR HANNOS this

The insolvency Act 1986 BARKWOOD CONSTRUCTION LIMITED

NOTICE IS MERELY GIVEN pursuant to Section 93 of the Insolvency Act 1930 that a meeting of creditors of the Jacobs and the Ansolvency Act 1930 that a meeting of creditors of the Jacobs and the Land Hers. WID 17th on Monday 12nd Must 1959 at 1203 am for the purpose of dealing with Sections 99 in 101 of the Insolvency Act 1965. Section of consists surfaces fively surmained their section must give particulars of their section must give particulars of their section must give particulars of their sections and addresses of the company's profices may be committed five of Interest the offices of the company's profices and addresses of the company's profices may be committed for the Author 1950 per on the two Disances dust price to the Author of the Interest of the Company, and their chain 1200 mon on the lost business dust before the meeting. Dured the sith day of Musch 1999 By Order of the Board 131 Musch 1999 By Order of the Boa

CAREBAND LISTIED TA MORTH WEST ALES NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant in Section 95 of the Insolvency Act 1956, that a Meeting of Creditors of the abwe-named Company will be held at Bew Chambers, 5 Tib Lane, Manchester M2-4JB on Tuesday 16 March 1999 at 1210 p.com, for the pursuoses mentioned or Sections purposes mentioned in Sections 94, 100 and 101 of the said Act. W, (0) and (0) of the said AC.

Pursuant to Section 99(2) of the
Act livis of the names and
addresses of the Company's
creditors will be available for
inspection tree of charge at the
offices of blesses Casson Beckman
& Partners, Bow Chambers, 8 Th
Lane, Manchesser M2 4/B on the
tree beautiest of the colling west.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD Dated this 19th day of February 1999 THE INSOLVENCY BULES 1986 HAVEN PROPERTY SUPPORT LIMITED N LIQUIDATION

NOTICE 6 HISSEN GIVEN pursuant to fluid
4.106 of the Insolvency fluids 1986 that
Mappine Facilities of Parce States Facilitie 5
Co. 6 Stomatum, Square, Lundon WCLA
21P was appointed Liquidage of the above
named Company on 5 March 1993 by
Members and Credinos.

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Legal Notices

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE REGIONS FOR CONFIRMATION OF BYELAWS RELATING TO THE CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY LIMITED RAILWAY

RAILWAY COMPANY LIMITED RAILWAY

Notice in bereity given pursuant to section 67 of the Transport Act 1962
and section 129 of the Railways Act 1993 that Cardiff Railway Company
Limited have made byelaws relating to the Cardiff Railway Company
Limited railway and attend to apply to the Secretary of State for
Environment, Transport and the Regions for his confirmation.

A copy of the byelaws in respect of which application for confirmation
is to be made can be uspected free of charge for a period of 28 days
starting from the date of this notice uppearing, between the hours of
9,00 and 16,00 Monday to Friday at the Cardiff Railway Company
Limited registered office at Cardiff Queen Street Station and o copy
thereof can be ristained on poystout of a charge of 50p either by
attending or by writing to either of those places.

During the 28 day period any person affected by the new byetaws may
make representation to the Secretary of State for Envirocement,
Transport and the Regions by writing to him at the Department of
Environmect, Transport and the Regions, Zone 3/33 (Bye-Irws), Grest
Minister House, 76 Marsham St. London SWIP 4RP.

Dated Friday 12th March 1999

Minster House, 76 Marsham S Dated Friday 12th March 1999 Company Secretary for and on behalf of Cardiff Railway Company Limited, Brunel House, 2 Fitzalan Road, Cardiff CF2 ISA

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT. TRANSPORT AND THE REGIONS FOR CONFIRMATION OF BYELAWS RELATING

TO THE WALES & WEST PASSENGER TRAINS
LIMITED RAILWAY

Notice as hereby given pursuant to section 67 of the Transport Act
1902 and section 120 of the Railways Act 1993 that Wales & West
Passenger Trans Lumited have made byelvery relating to the Wales &
West Passenger Trans, Limited railway and intend to apply to the
Secretary of State for Environment, Transport and the Regions for his
confirmation.

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A copy of the byelaws to respect of which application for confirmation is to be made end be inspected free of change for a period of 28 days starting from the date of this motica appearing, between the hours of 9,00 and 16,10 Monday to Friday at the Wales & West Passenger Trains Limited registered office, Brunet House, 2 Fitzalan Road, Cardiff CF2 ISU and of the Gameester, Penzance and Thuro Railway stations and a copy thereof can be obtained on payment of a charge of 5the either by attending or by writing to any of those places. During the 28 day period any person affected by the new byelaws may make representation to the Secretary of State for Environment. Transport and the Regions, Zone 3/13 (Bye-laws), Great Mutster House, 76 Marsham St, London SWIP 4RP.

CATEN LAGDER OUR HANDS this 9th day of March 1999 POPPLESTON ALLEN Solictors for and on behalf of the applicant 37 Stoney Street, The Lace Markes, Notingtons NGI 11.5 Dated Friday 12th March 1999

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My mate Jimmy

I COULD never stop being astonished at meeting famous people. Last year I interviewed Jimmy Hill, and it was a battle not to shout "Christ almighty, you're Jimmy hloody Hill, off the telly, who everyone takes the piss out of. Someone take a picture or my mates will never helieve me".

But nothing compares to being on Radio 4's Any Questions, live from Sandwich As I sat among the commuters on the train through Kent, I vacillated between two thoughts: "Wahey, I'm on Any Questions!", and "Aaaagh. I can't argue with cabinet ministers on the radio - I got kicked out of a Comprehensive school and

still eat chips in the road." At the station, I was met by Gerald Kaufman and Jonathan Dimbleby, and transported a hundred yards by leatherupholstered Jag to a hotel. There, as we entered, were tables laden with immaculately prepared fish, salads, meats, triffes, and cheeses, which were clearly for show. I nibbled a salmon, and listened to Gerald Kaufman tell a story about going to Nicaragua with Harold. Not "my mate Harold", or "this bloke called Harold", but "Harold", as in Harold Wilson. Again the instincts had to be quelled. For normally, hearing someone say this, I'd say "Oh right,

You went to Nicaragua with

Well, I went to Guatemala

Harold Wilson, did you?

with Benjamin Disraeli". This was worrying. Here was a leading government politician, and he was genuinely fascinating and honestly charming. What if during the programme he said something outrageous? I'd go to deliver a furning tirade, and then think, "But he's ever so pleasant. And he passed the paté without me asking".

This is a process which dampens all journalists and MARK STEEL



ON LOCATION

politicians. Formally, they might stay as radical as when their career began, hut over time their speeches lose their edge and evolve into playful banter. Kenneth Clarke is probably charming. And Peter Mandelson, and Ann Widdecombe. I bet there were journalists in Cambodia who said "But when you get to know him, Pol does tell amusing

As it transpired, it was the novelist Frederick Forsyth who was the potty one on the programme. Responding to the Macpherson Report, he launched into tub-thumping praise of police activities. This won initial support from the audience, most of whom were members of an organisation called something like The Order of the Sandwich and District Society of Aldermen. Anglican Parishioners. Yeomanry, Scones, and Home-Made Marmaiade.

The men wore Kent County Cricket Club ties, and the women had silk scarves and pearls. This is the land of Daily Telegraph readers and gravelly drives. Yet Forsyth's outstanding achievement was to be so rude that he turned this audience into supporters of the ranting Trot - he began one outburst against me with "I've FORGOTTEN more about history than you ever knew - boy".

"I must say, young man", said a chap in a blazer at the reception afterwards, "I don't know how you restrained yourself from clocking him one".

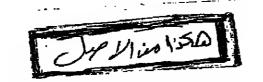
"You're making me feel I was soft on him," I replied. He then leaned into my ear and said in a marvellously clipped RAF accent, "I rather think you were".

Then someone clapped their hands and said they'd like to thank everyone who'd worked so jolly hard to make the evening such a success, and "Last hut by no means least, may I thank Mrs Whittaker, who's

surpassed herself again with her sausage rolls". Their enthusiasm made it impossible not to feel affection for the burghers of Sandwich. It would be easy to write off these people as irredeemable Thatcherites. But most of them are still subject to the fallout of government and economic turbulence. Their local transport has been dismantled, their hospital is under threat, and a local headmaster lamented the damage done to education in the area by selective schooling.

Equally, it would be fascinating to get to know leading politicians personally, to enjoy their company, and chortle at their whimsical tales of sharing a hotel room with Harold Macmillan. But how easy it must be to slip, without realising it. comfortably into their world, so that the next time someone screamed about tuition fees or attacks on single parents, you thought "Oh, hut Jack and David and Robin are lovely

people really". I know. Because I recently overheard someone slagging off Jimmy Hill. And I only just stopped myself from saying Oi mate, don't be like that 'Cos once you get to know him he's a really nice bloke". And he is, Honestly.





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SCIENCE

Scientists have long struggled to date the Universe. Now they've reached a final conclusion. By John Gribbin

Older than the stars

ince last year, there has been overwhelming cosmological evidence that the Universe is a couple of billion years older than the ages of stars, when calculated from astronomical evidence.

That seems logical enough, but in the mid-Nineties apparent evidence that the Universe is younger than the stars it contains made headlines, providing scope for stories poking n at the supposed stupidity (or competence) of astronomers. In the last couple of years this crisis in cosmology has been resolved. Yet aithough the crisis itself was big news, the resolution of the crisis has passed almost unnoticed. Astronomers measure the age of

the Universe by measuring how fast the galaxies - systems like our Milky Way, each containing hundreds of billions of stars - are receding from each other. The faster the galaxies are moving apart, the less time it must have taken them to get to their present state since the Big Bang. The snag is that you have to relate the speeds (which are quite easy to measure, using the red shift in the light from galaxies) to the distances between the galaxies

Baade finding that Hubble's data had been mis-calibrated was a landmark

today (which is quite hard to measure). This relationship is measured in terms of a number called Hubble's Constant, {\i H}, named after Edwin Hubble, who discovered the expansion 70 years ago. A bigger value of (\i H) implies a smaller age for the Universe.

Hubble's own estimates of {\i H}

were so hig that they implied that. the Universe was born less than 2 billion years ago. This was embarrassing, since even in the Thirti eologists knew that the Earth itself as roughly twice that old. So it was a major landmark in cosmology when Walter Baade found that Hubble's data had been miscalibrated: all the galaxies were twice as far apart as Hubble had thought. This meant that they must have taken twice as long to get to where they are today. As the headlines of 1952 put it, the age of the Universe was doubled overnight, happily making it a little more than the age of the Earth.

At the time, there was no conflict with the estimated ages of stars, since astrophysicists had only the vaguest idea how old the stars were. But over the next few decades, as successive improvements in telescopes and observing techniques pushed the measured distances to the galaxies out even further, and the age of the Universe up towards 10 cillion years, the stars were also becoming better understood, and est-



The Hubble Space Telescope improved cosmological observations - here, its camera captures interstellar gas pillars Reuters

imates of their ages (at least of the rate of the Universe all point to the oldest stars in the Milky Way) were looking uncomfortably large. By the start of the Nineties, when

the Hubble Space Telescope (HST) began to play a part in improving cosmological observations, estimates of the age of the Universe hovered around 10-12 billion years, but estimates of the ages of the oldest stars were about 16 billion years. This was the cause of the headlines, some simply poking fun at astronomers, others suggesting that the whole Big Bang theory of the origin of the Universe might be wrong.

Now that gap has been closed from either side. The really important feature of the cosmological work is that several completely different ways of measuring the expansion

same answer. Hubble's original technique was based on measuring distances to nearby galaxies, by studying stars known as cepheids in those galaxies. Their brightnesses are compared with cepheids in our own Milky Way, and the comparative brightnesses give you the distances to the galaxies. Then, you have to compare properties (such as size and brightness) of nearby galaxies with the properties of more distant galaxies to estimate how far apart they are. This traditional approach has been extended by the HST,

distances to more galaxies than any previous instrument. At the same time, distances were a distorted image in our telescopes. being measured by comparing the The geometry of the lensing can,

which can measure more cepheid

brightnesses of supernovae in different galaxies. A supernova marks the explosive death of a star, when it briefly shines as brightly as a whole galaxy of ordinary stars. So supernovae can be seen a long way away. All kinds of supernovae have the same brightness, so their distances can be found simply by measuring how faint they look in our telescopes. But this technique still depends on calibrating the brightnesses of

nearby supernovae using cepheids. Two other techniques do away with cepheids altogether. One involves gravitational lensing-the way the gravity of whole clusters of galaxies bends light from a galaxy far away across the Universe to form

under some circumstances, give the distance to the galaxy being lensed. And there is another technique that measures the Hubble constant from the effect that hot gas in clusters of galaxies has on the microwave background radiation, the echo of the Big Bang, passing

Crucially, all four techniques give a similar value for the constant, and this implies that the minimum age of the Universe (the time since the Big Bang) is 13 billion years. It was the Bellman, in The Hunting of the Snark, who said: "What I tell you three times is true." The Universe has told us four times that it is at

least 13 hillion years old. It is true. If astrophysicists were still telling us that the oldest stars are 16 billion

UPDATE

A CLOT BUSTING drug to treat heart patients is to be developed from snake venom in an £84,000 study funded by the British Heart Foundation. A molecule in venom called dendroaspin (or mambin) is known to stop blood from clotting which can prevent strokes - but eauses side-effects. The study points the way to drugs based on the anticlotting part of dendroaspin, which does not produce associated

years old, this would still be em-

barrassing. But at the same time

that the new results were coming in,

data from the Hipparcos satellile

was changing our understanding of

old stars. Hipparcos measured dist-

ances to stars with upprecedented

precision. Clear of the blurring ef-

fects of the Earth's atmosphere, it

located stars in the sky to an accuracy of one-thousandth of a second of

arc, equivalent to being able to mea-

sure the size of a golf ball at a dis-

tance of 3,000 miles. A key result of

this work was that it shifted the mea-

sured distances of the oldest stars

out slightly. If the stars are further

away from us, they must be shining

more brightly than astrophysicists

used to think, in order to look os

bright as they do in the sky. And if

they are shining more brightly, they

must have used up their nuclear fuel

(converting hydrogen into helium,

like the process which powers a hyd-

rogen bomb) more quickly. So they

must be younger than had been

thought. The best estimates of the

ages of the oldest stars - the oldest

known objects in the Universe - now

range from 10 to 12 billion years,

comfortably less than the "new" age

The Universe has told

us four times that

it is at least

13 billion years old

Recently, supernova studies have

suggested that the rate at which the

Universe is expanding is increasing.

Given the way the fide of opinion now

flows, this has been presented as an-

other crisis for cosmology. It is noth-

ing of the kind. The effect can be

explained in terms of a parameter,

called the cosmological constant,

which Albert Einstein himself intro-

duced into the discussion more than

80 years ago. And if the Universe is

expanding a little faster than it used

to, it was expanding more slowly

before, and took even longer to get

to its present state. We have to

increase the age of the Universe by

another 10 per cent or so, to a min-

imum of 14 billion years. The astro-

physicists agree that the 2 billion

years that allow for the oldest stars

around today to have formed after

the Big Bang, are ample. If anything

in science is a Deep Truth, this

match between astrophysics and

cosmology is a prime candidate. It

should be shouted from the rooftops.

Dr John Gribbin is a visiting Fellow

in astronomy at the University of

Sussex and author of The Birth of

Time' (Weidenfeld & Nicolson). His

lecture on How We Measured the

Age of the Universe is to be given

the Royal Institution, 21 Albemarle

Street, London W1. on Wednesday

.17 March at 7.30pm

There is even icing on the cake.

Dr Eve Hyde, a scientist at the University of Birmingham, where the research is to be curried out, said: "We have already found out the overall structure of dendroaspin. but now we hope to focus in on a part of the melecule that makes it so effective at stopping clots. If we can find this part and copy it, it could be the basis for a highly effective new drug."

SCIENTISTS AT the American National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) are expected next week to announce new evidence for the presence of life on Martian meteorites. Researchers led by David McKay, from Nasa's Johnson Space Center in Houston, will inform the Lunar and Planetary Conference that they bave found tiny structures on the Nakhla meteorite that could be fossilised microorganisms. The same group said in 1996 that they had found signs of life on another meteorite, known as ALH84001, but this was subsequently disputed by other scientists. Critics argue that the meteorites have suffered too much terrestrial contamination to be of use in the search for Martian life forms.

not have the same effect on women, reports New Scientist. A study of 33 post-menopausal women in the US found that only a quarter of them claimed their sex lives had improved as a result of taking the drug - results which were no better than a placebo. Steven Kaplan, of the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, said that only one in five of the women wanted to continue taking Viagra after the trial. "Clitoral blood-flow improvement, manifested ... by increased sensitivity; may not have translated into improved sexual function," Dr Kaplan said. STEVE CONNOR

VIAGRA, THE wonder drug

for male impotence, does

TECHNOQUEST

Q: I saw a rainbow very high in the sky near cirrus clouds, with no curve. It was on a damp evening. What was this? What you saw was no rainbow - although it was very similar. Rainbows are caused by sunlight being reflected and split inside raindrops. This other effect is called parhelia, or sundogs. Instead of water, ice crystals (hexagonal in shape) refract light and refocus some of it towards. you, giving a ring of light around the Sun.

It is rare to see the whole ring, but arcsections are common. At the four compass points of this ring you often see brighter patches of "rainbow-like" light, several degrees in extent.

O: How does a fish know what species if is? It can't look in a mirror to see what it looks like and then find others that look similar. I guess this applies to all animals how can a baby elephant recognise an adult elephant, without seeing itself in a mirror? A deceptively simple question. Fish recognise their own species by eg: huminous organs, in lantern fish; colour spots.

in John Dory; smell, in chemicals released by an injured minnow. We do not know.

whether, or how, they can recognise individuals of their own species. The recognition-response to these signals is usually genetic, ie they do not need to learn it from parents. They don't have to see themselves, only respond to a particular smell or colour that indicates another member



Goldfish - or shark?

of the species. It seems that fish, and presumably other animals, know what patterns and colours to look for by some genetic coding - it's just natural! However, it's clear that some animals don't recognise, or feel comfortable with, others of their own species if they're older and bigger. I foster an elephant that was recently introduced to a new family in Kenya. It had no memory of adult elephants, as its mother

was killed when it was young. It took a couple of hours to feel comfortable with the adult elephants.

Q: How did Pascal

measure atmospheric

pressure with a 40-ft

glass tube full of wine? Barometers can be made using any liquid. Imagine a long tube almost filled with water. Turn the tube upside down and put the open end in a bucket of water. The weight of the atmosphere on the water in the bucket pushes against the water in the tube and stops it coming out. The lower the atmospheric pressure, the more water will flow out of the tube, causing the level of water in it to drop. Conversely, high pressure will force the level up. Barometers are usually made of mercury because it is so dense— 76cm of mercury in a thin tube can typically be supported by an average atmospheric pressure. Pascal showed that the same atmospheric pressure, which most people were unaware of until then, could support 40ft of wine in a tube.

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My year with Stanley

Sara Maitland had never seen a film script when Stanley Kubrick asked her to write for him. Though their difficult collaboration ended in failure and frustration she would gladly do it again

telephone rang. I answered and a gruff voice said, "This is Stanley Kubrick. Would you like to write a film script for me?" Assuming this was a joking friend. I replied, "And this is Marilyn Monroe and I've beeo dead 30 years." He laughed. It really was Stanley Kuhrick.

This slightly surreal episode was the beginning of one of the most exciting, trustrating, confusing and educational periods of my professional life. For a brief time I was Stanley Kubrick's scriptwriter.

Why you? I am asked with unflattering amazemeot. Without undue arrogance, I was rather a sound choice. He wanted me to work on the long-promised "Kubrick's Al film," although he always called it "Pinocchio". He was fascinated by Artificial Intelligence. He wanted to effect a cultural change. If robots are made by us and act like us, why are they not our children? He complained about Blade Runner, that if it was that difficult to determine who was a replicant - why did it matter? Why do they have to be hunted down? He believed computers will become truly intelligent, including emotionally, and are potentially a more environmentally adaptable form of human being: they are our future. The film was intended to make us love them.

By the time I came to the project it had hecome enormous, unwieldy, unfocused. Kubrick needed some through-line of fairy tale, of story beneath plot. He was creating a new myth and needed someone who was at home with myth and how it works. At the same time, the technology and the scale - which spanned at least three millennia - were overwhelming the story. It needed a writer who dealt with the little, the nuances of interrelationship, of the minute movements of human hearts and especially, since maternity was an important theme, of women's hearts. Kubrick had encountered my short stories and recognised that that is what I do. I write about the underbelly of human emotions in the framework of myth and fairy story.

He did not want an experienced scriptwriter. He wanted a storyteller. When I told him I had never seen a film script, he was delighted. He wanted a running text, not a script; filming it was his joh. He boasted that there was no sentence in the English language which he could not make into film. We played a game in which I had to come up with unfilmable sentences. "She perfectly repressed her

He wanted sentences to film. Sadly I could not deliver for him. He wanted to make this film, really wanted to; I wanted to write it. So why didn't it work? I am oot sure oow that it was makeable: he had played with it too long so that it had to be perfect and at that scale nothing is going to be perfect. Perhaps he could turn anything into film, but this presupposed an infinity of time and resources... and even then it may not be possible to invent a myth in that individualistic way.

It didn't work between him and me because I was not the right sort of writer. I have to write out ideas to be confident of them: he had to be persuaded by ideas very quickly, before he wanted time spent on

(and obedience). I had the wrong size of ego: too large to hand my creative skills over to him passively, too small to believe I could sometimes know better than him.

But it also did not work because he was impossible to work for. This is part of the Kubrick myth. It was also true. He had more energy than anyone I have ever met. He dedicated himself to the project and he expected everyone around him to do so too. While his energy was directed at our work he would ring up repeatedly at ridiculous hours, wanting total attention, now. He was completely involved and did not understand that anyone might work in a different way. Once, when we were stuck, I managed to say that I and the story needed some space. How long? he asked. A mooth, I suggested. He looked at me and said, "I couldn't." Theo he laughed and, in an unusual moment, told me everyone who had ever written for him had asked for the same thing, but he had come to realise he just could not leave his project with someone else for that long. We finally negotiated 10 days. We parted and I drove home, barely an hour away. By the time I got there there were three messages from him on my answer machine: all of them demanding an immediate response. There was no apology. oo mentioo of our recent agreement. He was famously arrogant. I asked him

He boasted there was no sentence in the English language which he could not make into film

ooce how he imagined "active" robots would look in a few thousand years. "However I make them look in this film," he said. I felt envious, not aggrieved, by this. I admired his sense of his own power, Because he was arrogant, be got the films made.

He was also supposed to be paranoid, and sometimes I did wonder. Small, compact, bearded, often wearing a boiler suit, he did not look like someone who abhorred physical contact, but at our first meeting he conspicuously avoided even the customary handshake; I never saw him touch another person. He loathed journalists, especially British journalists. In a conver-sation I mentioned a friend of mine was a journalist. "Do you know many journalists?" he demanded. "Yes." "If I'd known that," he said calmly, "I'd have had a noncontact clause in your contract."

He was profoundly secretive. There was a silencing clause in my contract - I could not talk about the film. I now suspect that lots of other writers worked on this project: hut he would never say who or what or why they had stopped, or even if they had stopped. I would like to meet other people who tried to write this story with him; and discuss what film we all thought we were working towards. The idea of our getting together would have appalled him. Once I left a message about the script with his PA and got a tremendous ticking off: about work I could talk only to him.

But does this constitute paranoia in any clinical sense? He was husy and he was

he wanted engagement and immediacy his protective cordon he was warm and friendly and his large household was relaxed and friendly. He lived, rather unromantically, between Luton and St Albans, in the house originally built for the founder of Maples furniture store: an Edwardian pomposity, set in large grounds. His "office" was the old billiards room, rather charmingly unaltered with the scoreboard still on the wall and replicas of the original heavy velvet curtains. Only the billiard table itself had been removed, replaced at one end of the room by a desk and at the other by an awe-inspiring and, to me, mysterious, bank of film-stuff: TV screens,

videos, and electronic wizardry. On a couple of occasions we went from there through a warren of ex-servant quarters to the enormous kitchen-cum-sitting-and-dining-room. Uoder the central kitchen-island each of the half-dozen dogs had a recessed bed. It was very like my kitchen would be if I was rich and famous. The whole household, including the staff, seemed to drift through these informal lunchtimes. It was chatty, fun, oormal.

He was one of the best talkers I have ever met, flamboyant with his ideas, interested in yours, widely read, fiercely intelligent and demanding, and seriously funny oo a good day. But in the end he was interested in the film, not in me. He was savagely impatient. He could be rude when thwarted, even in minor matters. Eventually it became clear that I wasn't giving him what he wanted. I began to feel bullied instead of excited, less and less able to wheel as he wanted, less and less eager to do so. I started to grumble to my friends, while feeling a failure.

One day he handed me a book called Viennese Novelettes by Schnitzler, I must read "Rhapsody", it was a wonderful story, it would make a wonderful film. So I read it and it didn't grab me. That was the end. It had grabbed him. It now know it had grabbed him 20 years ago, but he spoke as though he had only read it the night before.) It is the basis of Eyes Wide Shut, "Pinoc-chio" was on hold. The cheque for completion of my contract arrived and I never

heard from him again.

That sort of thing makes people angry. This week someone said that Kuhrick was a great director but a "failed human being". I recognise the feeling, but know for me that is a defensive reflex it means he failed to love me or, rather, my work. Kubrick made some great films, marked as his, in an almost old-fashioned way. He had a long-lasting marriage and his numerous dogs liked him. He adored his grandchildren; they were perhaps the only personal topic he ever mentioned. I wouldn't mind being that sort of failure.

I thought I was angry, until I heard he had died. Then I realised that I hadn't really quite given up hope that when he had finished this little film, he would come back to the hig one; he would ring up again ooe day and let me work with him - and even though it would be horrible and frustrating again, I would say yes. I am proud that I worked for him. He

made me interested in film writing - I know I want to do so again. And I am sad; I think we have lost someone magnificent.

Sara Maitland's novel, Brittle Joys', will them. I need space and silence and time: reclusive; be protected his privacy. Inside be published in May by Little, Brown



LOST WORLDS: THE FILMS KUBRICK NEVER MADE

2001:

turned

offer to

Kuhrick was obsessed with the French emperor and

sultably epic film. The director constantly compared his method of film-making to the way the French emperor fought his hattles in their strategy. planning and execution. Jack Nicholson was interested in playing the title role. Shooting was at one point scheduled for winter 1969, with MGM agreeing to hack It, despite having suffered a number of expensive flops.

However, it was dogged by

delays and by 1974 was

In 1991, Kubrick bought the rights to a book, Wartime Lies, about a young Jewish boy who is forced to flee Poland when the Germans invade. He joins up with an aunt, and together they hecome involved in the black market. Kuhrick sent out scouts to hunt down locations in Denmark for "Aryan Papers", as he called it, but his interest in the project gradually

evaporated. Some say he abandoned it because of its similarities to Schindler's List, although that problem had never deterred him before: Vietnam epics Plotoon and Homburger Hill were both released before Full Metal Jacket.

down an

direct the film of Arthur C Clarke's 2010: Odyssey Two in 1984. and the joh Instead went to Peter Hyams. There have been suggestions for years. though, that Kubrick had something special lined up for his fans when the year 2001 came around. One persistent rumour had him deep into a project which Involved him shooting segments of the script for two months every five years, with the story following an actor as he aged in real life.

"Al" (Artificial Intelligence) was a fable set in the far future about an android searching for a way to become human (hence Kuhrick's "Pinocchio" references). It was to be set In a flooded Manhatran, where the tops of the skyscrapers protruded from the waves. Kuhrick had felt for a long time that special effects technology wasn't up to the job. in 1993, though, Jurassic Park convinced him the time had come. At one stage, Brian Aldiss, a writer Kuhrick hired to work on the script, was sacked after hreaching his contract by leaving the country without

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Kubrick's permission. MAXTON WALKER

Woman on the verge of a telephone call

THIS CRITIC would queue to see Amanda Harris perform the shipping forecast. Indeed, there were momeots during Take the Fire when I began to think it would have been preferable. The evening consists of four monologues by Jean hlack two-piece Ms Harris begins Cocteau, in whose works the charlatan and the genius tantalisingly weave and dark Unfortunately, when he composed these, the genius seems to have been en vucances.

On a bare stage and in a trim

THEATRE TAKE THE FIRE LYRIC STUDIO HAMMERSMITH

and ends the proceedings lying full length by a silent telephone - the archetypal image of womanhood kept on humiliating hold by a two-timing bastard. Well, I say womanhood, but gay male emotion appears to have the defiant glad rags of drag.

Or rather it would, if it weren't for flounce and desperation. Her performance is subtly and winningly

these monologuing dames as to or silent men in the plays; the savhave the effect of virtually reducing ing charm is that you don't feel the is eventually exposed and thrust out. them to a victim-complex got up in actress is being camp as a way of The other items in Paul Garrington's coping with that other oppressive artfully shaded production strike me male, Jean Cocteau. No ooe can as poorer versions of other works the warmly attractive talents of Ms Bash a smile of more radiant raunch Le Bel Indifferent is inferior to both

My favourite piece was "The Dame of Monte Carlo", a ballad in camp, only because camp is one syncopated rhyming couplets about tress hurls herself against the rock

projected itself so massively on to strategy for coping with the unseeo a woman oo the game at the game of her lover's silence. Jabbering ing tables, a reckless gambler who Harris who is all the more moving than Ms Harris or convince you that Cocteau's own La Voix Humain for heightening the droll intelligence behind the pained sensual series as well as others.

Cocteau's own La Voix Humain and to any number of plays in its unservice behind the pained sensual series as well as others. between a couple where one does all the talking Here, the actress-mis-

of spot-on theatrical impersonations - from a Tennessee Williams faded belle to a Fie, Madam beauty-spotted heroine.

All very accomplished, but as I remarked to a female colleague on the way out, it will be nice to see Amanda Harris playing a woman again.
PAUL TAYLOR Amanda Harris Gergint Lewis



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The magic is missing.

AFTER MONTHS of hosting big-league companies, Sadier's Wells is paying its dues to the local community with Green Candle Dance Company's new On the Road to Baghdad. This spectacle adapts a novel by the Turkish-American writer Guneli Gun, which in turn recycles Middle-Eastern folklore, history, Sufism and The Thousand and One Nights. The put-upon picaresque heroine is Huru, who staggers through a tapestry of extraordinary events, monstrous characters and demons who appear and disappear. It is magic realism given a predictable, 20th-

century, feminist slant. The choreographer and dancer Fergus Early started Green Candle as a community project 12 years ago. So how do you judge community perform-

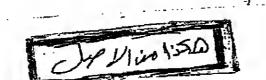
DANCE GREEN CANDLE DANCE COMPANY SADLER'S WELLS LONDON

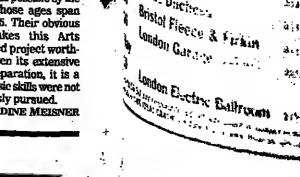
ance? With an indulgent smile, if the production is devised and presented solely by amateurs who dance, act, sing and play music. Our heroine travels not only between Istanbul and Baghdad, but also 800 years hackwards - and, at three hours, it certainly felt like it.

Emma Cater's Huru is on stage all the time and has a sweet singing voice, but is not a strong enough focus. Early, playing the small role of Huru's but Jason Lahav's greenskinned demon needs to loosen more rigorously pursued.

The evening lights up with the Turkish actor Umut Ugur as a roguish alchemist, whose hrief, hut weighty, presence and voice suddenly make you sit up. He also took part in an exquisite, fantastical aerial ballet, with figures suspended in a night sky, tipping over and tangling with each other. But, in general, the work's dance rarely rises above movement sequences and is shakily performed

The cast of (almost) thouands was made possible by the volunteers, whose ages span from five to 75. Their obvious pleasure makes this Arts Council-funded project worthwhile, hut given its extensive father, is relatively harmless; scale and preparation, it is a shame that basic skills were not





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THE FRIDAY REVIEW The tadependent 12 March 1990

MUSIC



The rhythm kings

Drum'n'bass is at the heart of popular music and for 20 years Sly Dunbar and Robbie Shakespeare have been acknowledged the best. But who are their own favourites? By Charles Shaar Murray

music; the engine wicked, wicked. which drives rock, pop. soul, funk, jazz, reggae, and anything else you care to name. And for more than two decades, Jamaica's hardest have been drummer Lowell "Sly" Dunbar and bassist Robbie Sbakespeare, acclaimed as masters of groove and propulsion. The breakthrough was in 1977 with The Mighty Diamonds' "Right Time", a revolutionary record, with Sly's radical drumming matching the singers' insurrectionary lyrics blow-for-blow

Since then, they've manifested in a variety of guises: as members of Black Uhuru; as producers (they were behind : Chaka Demus & Pliers' string of pop-reggae hits a few years back); as hired guns for artists from Grace Jones to Ian Dury; and as artists in their own right with a series of dubbed-out rhythm orgies culminating in their current Strip to the Bone, a dense, hallucinatory team-up with realix terrorist Howie B. As Black Uhuru lead singer Michael Rose used to chant, Robbie Shakespeare hit you when you're near, Sly Dunbar hit you from afar".

Sly Dunbar defines "groove" as "a wicked, wicked drumbeat. If they can dance off of that, you add a bass to concrete it, to shape it into a song. If that a gwan, everything all right. A little guitar, a little keyboard ting pon it, like making a cake: different tastes to make it perfect". So it seemed a reasonable notion to ask

tions go something like this. Motown rhythm section James Jamerson (bass), Benny Ben-Robbie: Everything wha' dem do, the

the champs in their field. Their nomina-

Sly: If you check all the Motown songs, they always have a memorable bass-line. If you play 10 Motown songs, you remember the bass-lines. Any musical person could sing you the line: you remember the bass-line more than the lyric of the song. Picks: Jr. Walker: "Shotgun"; Tempta-

tions: "My Girl": Miracles: "Get Ready"

Stax rhythm section Donald Duck' Dunn, replacing Lewis Steinberg, (bass), Al Jackson Jr (drums) Sly: Al Jackson was the greatest recording drummer. When they were going to record (Bill Withers') "Ain't No Sunshine", which Booker T (below) produced, they'd just got a drum kit that day at the studio, and he took it out of the box and played it as is. All he did was tighten the snare. Another time he was playing live and the snare drum burst, so he just pulled over a tom-tom and started

beating on that. Nobody even knew the

snare drum had burst. For a

drummer, if the snare goes, it's like everything has gone. Robbie: Donald "Duck" Dunn was wicked, but I never know 'til lately that he was the one who played for Stax. I don't get to do my read-

Picks: Booker T & the the Rhythm Killers who they regard as MGs: "Green Onions", "Time Is Tight': Wilson Pickett: In The Midnight

> **Various** Atlantic rhythm sections Primarily Chuck Rainey

foundation of popular song come out, everything was wicked, Sly: Bernard Purche was wicked; he So much groove when they played! sions with (producers) Jerry Wexler and Arif Mardin.

Robbie: Then there was the Muscle Shoals rhythm section. I don't know their names. I haven't done my research

and I feel like a dummy. Picks: Aretha Franklin: "Rock Steady"; Herbie Mann: Memphis Underground

Various Channel One and Studio One rhythm sections

Including Boris Gardner (bass), Leroy 'Horsemouth' Wallace (bass) Sly: Credits don't really exist in Jamaica. You come to England and everybody know from word of mouth who played what in Jamaica! Credits started when (producer/bandleader) Bunny Lee put the name of the musicians on the record and it start from there. Somebody come from England and know everyting bout

every music, who play what on what. We say, "Wha"? Me na know!" Before that it was "backed by the Bunny Lee All-Stars" or "the Joe Gibbs All-Stars". Who is "All-Stars"?

> You Leave Me To Cry" Bob Marley & the Wailers Aston Family Man' Barrett (bass), Carl-

Pick: Heptones: "Why Did

ton 'Carlie' Barrett Sly: Carlie had a style like nobody else. He did some things when he played a roll, it was just inside. When they play a

rum'n'bass: it's the groove was right. Not really ever a bad (bass), Bernard Pretty Purdie (drums) wicked song, you know it's a wicked song. section was so unorthodox - in a class by used to do all the (New York) Atlantic ses- Picks: "Duppy Conqueror", "Crazy Bald- Pick: "Look-A-Py-Py"

> Paul McCartney (bass), Ringo Starr (drums)

Various

blefield (drums)

James Brown rhythm sections, includ-

ing Bootsy Collins (bass), Clyde Stub-

Sly: We asked Bootsy to play some funk

for us, to play "Sex Machine", and he was

Robbie: Bootsy played guitar for us on

"Boops" and the albums Rhythm Killers

Jaco Pastorius (bass), Peter Erskine

Robbie: He did things nobody had ever

done on the bass. We were on a tour of

Japan and he was on it. You think Jaco

would have a fancy bass? One old Fender

bass. He was the one who took out the

frets, said he couldn't afford a fretless bass.

Sly: Them harmonics things he played.

I never heard nobody play. A full song, har-

Robbie Shakespeare (bass), Sly Dunbar

Siv: The wickedest Siy & Robbie groove

for all time is (Grace Jones's) "Pull Up

Robbie: A Black Uhuru song, "Fit You

Sly: What drummer could play that?

Totally different between the snare and

To The Bumper" and "Boops".

Sly: That's my jazz rhythm section!

playing the guitar part too!

and Language Barrier.

Weather Report

monic style.

(drums)

Haffe Fit".

Robbie: Wicked.

Pick: "Birdland"

And, of course...

Sly: Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr, they proved themselves from time. They really have a track record. Pick: "A Hard Day's Night"

The Rolling Stones Bill Wyman (bass), Charlie Watts Pick: "Sex Machine" (drums) Sly: Charlie Watts? Wickedest drum-

Pick: "Satisfaction" The Who John Entwistle (bass), Keith Moon (drums)

Sly: Keith Moon was great, especially when performing live, yunno. When he died, they never was The Who again. Robbie: I never know the bass player's name, but I love his style. Pick: "See Me, Feel Me" (from Tommy, as performed live at Woodstock)

Sly & The Family Stone Larry Graham (bass), Greg Errico Sly: Wicked, man, wicked, man. Awesome. Pick: "Sing A Simple Song"

George Porter (bass), Joseph "Zigaboo" Modeliste (drums) Sly: The wickedest rhythm section. Robbie: When I was young I used to listen to them.

Sly: And I'd think, "How can we copy them?" And nobody could. That rhythm on Palm Pictures

After the failure of Blur's single to oust Britney Spears

LYRIC SHEETS

MARTIN NEWELL

(below) from the top of the charts. the NME has said there's a case for rock's future "left-field aspirants" to follow the example of 70s rock dinosaurs and refuse to release singles

Back to the **Great Divide**



If there's a case for snobbery It probably starts here: A choice between an alcopop Or decent pint of beer A trawl around our "hit parade" Its airbeads and its chancers Its ditzy little keyboard riffs And drama-schooltrained dancers Whose cover shots and image fees For vapid promo vids Might buy a year of breakfasts For a town of starving kids

So could the only antidote Be "music-with-a-beard?" The difficult and lengthy The arty and the weird Where every track's a sort of threat Which keeps on switching key Or flaunts a nasty time-change Where choruses should be. With minus no-potential As an advertising jingle And even less to offer As a radio-friendly single

Back to double gatefold sleeves And self-important solos? But back to men who musically. Would give you their last Rolos Scruffy folk in wiry specs The fashion police would hate Unsuitable for TFI The Chart Show or Blind Date Who'd drag the music from the mall And into pastures fresh And leave the singles market To the muppets, as a creche

ROBERT HANKS



NASA's space station was □ clearly the origin of the phrase 'astronomically expensive'

PAGE 18

RIFFS

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Colin Blundstone: Say You Don't Mind I find this record spooky. It is

deeply nostalgic for me, and evocative of a certain time. You will understand why the nostalgia makes the record quite frightening, when I tell you that I was given it when entering puberty. In fact, it's a very cheesy

record, a one-hit-wonder of a love ballad, but a ballad that almost manages to achieve a dizzy melancholy. So it's quite sophisticated, really. But again, I think the feeling of melancholy was mostly to do with my age, and how emotions tend to run away with themselves during puberty. I remember that I would be nearly in tears, and

It is always the melodies that really affect me, rather than the lyrics. And seeing as I had no concept of relationships at the time, I am sure I wasn't listening to

Its influence is in there somewhere, like an albatross around my neck. This song is responsible for all my cheesy, melancholic

the meaning.

Supercollider: Supercollider This is a great example of trying something different. It's really dark, with a lot of deep bass, and what I like to call disintegrated funk. This is less high energy than Seventies funk, and more a reinvention of the traditional soulful funk. It's very Nineties funk.

It is also quite industrial and dirty. The ideal millennium party tune! The sound is dismembered broken down into parts and it jerks through many different genres throughout the record: a bit of house, some slower tempo music, and hip-hop. But, most important, it uses other music styles without being retrospective.

As a musician I find this experimentation is very appealing, and in a way it is what makes me play it, to experience new influences. It's a really modern look at how to be funky.

INTERVIEW BY JENNIPER ROGER



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THIS WEEK'S ALBUM RELEASES

REVIEWED BY ANDY GILL



BETH ORTON Central Reservation Heavenly

BETH ORTON'S career so far has followed a decidedly idiosyncratic path, tacking nimbly between the apparently conflicting ields of folk and house music. She initially made her name collaborating with danceloor dynamos such as William Orbit, Andrew Weatherall and The Chemical 3rothers, but her second album reveals ather more, you suspect, of her own personal taste. The only vaguely "dancey" sounds on Central Reservation occur when Everything but the Girl's Ben Watt, acknowledged master of the techno/torchsong crossover, applies a faint synthesiser backdrop and the most discreet of trip-hop preakbeats to "Stars all Seem to Weep" and one of two versions of the title-track - and even then, so subtle is his work that the change is barely perceptible.

Elsewhere, the accumulated experience of two years' work with ber live band has given Orton the confidence to develop the rootsier elements of ber Trailer Park début. With its subtle instrumental tinting and relaxed double-bass underpinnings. Central Reservation more closely follows the folk-jazz contours of Tim Buckley, John Martyn or Nick Drake - one track features Buckley's old vibes player, Dave Friedman, while the busky melisma of Orton's vocals inescapably

brings to mind Drake's languid charm. The mood throughout is calm and ruminative, particularly for tracks such as "Sweetest Decline", where gently sweep-ing strings and the cocktail tinkle of Dr John's piano support Orton as she muses in Thomas Gray vein: "Another day slips away, and my beart sinks with the sun. The other guests are equally well chosen: the distinctive slide guitar of Ben Harper uncoils warily through a couple of tracks, and the cult soul-jazz singer Terry Callier belps out on "Pass in Time", Orton's elegy for ber late mother.

"There's no right or wrong, this isn't a test, and I won't lose my experience," Orton notes on "Couldn't Cause me Harm" - as level-headed an observation as any in contemporary pop music.



13 Food

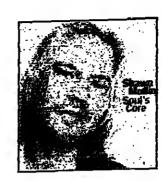
BLUR'S SIXTH album is a grower On first hearing, it sounds rough and unfocused, the least solid of their releases; but with each subsequent encounter, its character becomes more clearly defined. Continuing their drift away from Britpop, it's undoubtedly their most courageous work, returning them to the psychedelic indie-rock of their Leisure debut. With Damon Albarn's separation from Justine Frischmann hanging over proceedings, it's rather morose, though there's no shortage of compensatory fun in the wealth of quirky detail layered in by William Orbit. He's given them the freedom to pursue a myriad different paths, taking their lead from such as the Plastic One Band ("Tender"), David Bowie ("Bugman"), The Fall ("Swamp Song") and krautrock ("Trailer Park"). The short and sharp "B.L.U.R.E.M.L." perhaps best shows the album's playfulness, punctuating a terse punk thrash with cartoon duck quacks, before tacking on a quiet piano postlude. 13 may lack the instant pop-appeal of Parklife, but there's more authentic life to this music than

anything they've done before.



Who Else!

THIS IS Jeff Beck's first proper album (i.e. not a soundtrack) since 1989'a Guitar Shop axe-hero masterclass, which must make him one of the country's most criminally under-utilised natural resources. The reason is probably his inability, or disinclination, to come up with new material. The kind of guitar wizardry that Beck specialises in mostly consists of small clusters of dazzling technical effects rather than melody lines, so it's fortunate that keyboardist Tony Hymas has come up with enough tunes to fill out another record, leaving the guitarist free to concentrate on expressing himself as spectacularly as possible. Accordingly, there are plenty of whizz-bang guitar stunts such as those on the opener "What Mama Said", the musical equivalent of a match carelessly tossed into a box of fireworks, shooting colourful guitar phrases in all directions. Balancing these showy pyrotechnics are subtler, moodier pieces such as "Angel (Footsteps)" and the live cut "Brush With The Blues", where Beck's taste and command of his instrument is simply nonpareil. Dazzling stuff.



SHAWN MULLINS Soul's Core

SHAWN MULLINS' infectious hit "Lullaby" contains one of the year's better couplets, when he says of Los Angeles, Seems like everyone here's got a plan/It's kind of like Nashville with a tan". The song, an LA story of childhood dreams damned by the disillusions of adulthood, is typical of Mullins' work he's a wandering troubadour in the classic Sixties mould, offering neatly-turned vignettes of ordinary lives and fleeting encounters in songs such as "September In Seattle" and "Gulf Of Mexico". His influences are clear: Dylan, Hank Williams and Kris Kristofferson for the most part, while Steve Earle's fingerprints are all over "Ballad Of Billy Jo McKay", a thumboail sketch of smalltown ennui. Mullins' characters all suffer from the American disease of restlessness, whether it's the hobo in "Twin Rocks, Oregon" or the wife in "Tannin' Bed Song" who tires of life in a trailer park. But there's no reproach, just a fellow-feeling for those whose American Dream has soured; as he admits in "Anchored In You", "...sometimes we dreamers just get in the way".



PETER THOMAS SOUND ORCHESTRA Warp Back To Earth 66/99

SEPTUAGENARIAN SOUNDTRACK composer Peter Thomas is best known for his late-Sixties work on the cult German scifi series Space Patrol Orion, 29 fragments of which are collected together on the second of these two CDs. Titles such as Communication In Hyperspace" and "Galaxy Fall Out" signal Thomas's territory, a universe composed of equal parts lounge muzak, jazz-rock and pio neering synthesiser soundscapes which, time being circular, sounds utterly contemporary today. The other disc fea tures not so much remixes as re-appli cations of Thomas's sounds by disciples such as pop groups Saint Etienne and Stereolab - both of whom produce their most beguiling work in some time - and avant-rockers such as Stock, Hausen & Walkman. The results are an intriguing blend of the effete and the experimental. There's a regimentation to some tracks, however, that rather betrays the spirit of the original work only the sonic bricolage of S,H&W's "Space Rocks" and the dark matter of Tipsy's "Evil Guitar" come close to emulating the aleatory atmosphere of Thomas's own music.

My, what a big lighting rig you've got



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BRIAN SEIZER

Hyde: sheer stamina

that they make repetitive electronic dance music that basically feels good and has a groove (not as easy as it sounds). They are also likeable lovable, even. They project this likefront of a matrix of five giant screens alternately showing abstract de-signs and closed-circuit TV images

Yet they do seem genuinely nice, your average guys-next-door, with £30,000 worth of electronics but thoughtful enough to use headphones after 11pm without heing pelling, that establish the rapport to the audience.

at MVC

Stum Setzer, the former

singer and driving force behind early 80's rockabilly scarations The Stray Cats.

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THE THING about Underworld is asked, Your mother would like them. What they do on stage is something like a recording studio mixing session turned into a performance. They all wear cordless headphones. Darren Emerson and Rick Smith ability in a way that is larger than operate faders and mute switches on life on the Astoria's wide stage, in a couple of mixers and Karl Hyde moves restlessly around the stage, sometimes twiddling what sounds like the filters of an analogue synthesiser, occasionally picking up a tambourine and, on one number strapping on a type-decorated guitar.

It's Hyde's vocals, largely in-comprehensible, repetitive yet com-

Brawing on a wide range of influences and with contributions from Terry

Calier, Imegen Heop, Taipacie

and MC Mell 'O', Urban Species

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LIVE UNDERWORLD ASTORIA LONDON

with the audience. He bends and crouches, side-on, radio mic in hand, with elegant/awkward gestures and contortions rippling around his skinny frame. When he isn't singing, which is most of the time, Hyde remains in the spotlight, sidling between the equipment manned by Smith and Emerson, making gestures of support to his colleagues or

Underworld show isn't really about the physical performance of songs. The show is a continuous two-hour audio-visual experience, hased around repetition and electronic sound and four-square beats over which the five screens flash type and abstract images that sometimes complement and at other times

contest the sound churning out. The gargantuan rock'n'roll lighting rig, looking many times more expensive and sophisticated than the sound gear, has strobes, spotlights, rotating searchlights and blinding

His stamina is enviable, but the building to the point where the (predominantly male) ticket-holders are brilliantly floodlit in time to the opening chords of "Born Slippy".

People dance or at least jiggle to their grooves, in a tradition of outof-time English dancing that stretches back generations. Where the sampled kick drums go "duh, duh, duh, duh", the dancers seem to hear only "brnyah, brnyah, hrnyah, brnyah". Underworld dou't mind, They're nice guys, after all, and when you make repetitive electronic dance music, this is what happens.

On stage they are turning what flashguns trained on the audience, was once a boring, unglamorous,

non-real-time process - studio work - into a performance. That it succeeds as entertainment is mainly down to Hyde. You can't keep your eyes off his mercurial, campy manocurres. Their easy listenability is down to Smith's inventive production, and the trio's collective instinct

for tasty sounds. Underworld's repetitive electronic dance music dresses and undresses the skeletal structure of hard, explicit, four-four beats in a way that leaves their dope-smoking, lager-swilling - hut basically quite

nice - audience wanting more. JOHN L WALTERS

Cerys the menace LIVE

WITH A bottle of wine in her hand and a withering sneer on her face, Cerys Matthews had the crowd bowing in reverence and throwing flowers at her feet on the first leg of their tour. As they screamed variations on her name - Crease, Cerise, Cress - she barked: "How can you listen with all that shouting?" They responded hy yelling louder, willing her to tell

them off again. Matthews is the primary force behind Catatonia and comes equipped with a hefty stage presence. She has cited Judy Garland as her musical hero and sells herself as the laddish hippie chick with an unlimited repertoire of damning soundbites. She also trades on her Celtic vowel sounds and crackling vocals, though Wednesday's show proved that she can just as easily switch on an angelic voice when required for

wistful numbers. During the hit single "Mulder and Scully", Matthews asked the crowd to belp ber

CATATONIA **ASSEMBLY ROOMS** DERBY

along claiming that she had "problems with the high notes", but we were not to be deceived. Despite her throaty, 40-a-day vocals, Matthews rose beatifically above each note before demolishing them with larynxlacerating force.

Memories of Matthews' remarkable voice will not quite obliterate the fundamental weaknesses in Catatonia's new songs. Previous material leaned heavily on zeitgeisty references which, combined with their generic indie pop, provided them with only fleeting appeal.

New songs revealed more similar sing-a-long melodies and a profusion of cultural clichés, from karaoke to feng shui. A new song, "Storm The ation the band will - to borrow Palace", echoed the insurrectionist sentiments of "I Am find themselves "Equally



Matthews: Crass student sloganeering

The Moh", while the "make hay, not war" maxim in "Dead From the Waist Down' smacked of crass atudent

sloganeering. Fortunately, Matthews' magnetism outweighs the occasional crassness of Catatonia's songs. But with such a combinthe title of their new album - Cursed and Blessed".

Catatonia play the Octagon, Sheffield tonight, and Barтоwlands, Glasgow on Sun-day 14 March; the tour continues to 24 March.

A version of this review appeared in later editions of yesterday's paper

Pre-teenage kicks

FIRST THERE was the boy band, then there was the girl band. But now the world of disposable pop has taken heed of political correctness and come up with the consummate teen act: the boy/girl band.

After a decade away from the frav. Eighties pop-Svengali Pete Waterman has finally joined the dash to satisfy legions of pre-teens. Steps are the fruit of his endeavour.

Monday night's show opened with a video screen conveying instructions to the expectant tots. As the word "Scream" appeared, a noise erupted that was comparable to a swarm of mosquitoes homing in on a piece of flesh. Parents looked aghast as their little treasures were overtaken by hormones, screaming themselves silly before their idols

had even graced the stage. Steps arrived looking so fresh-faced and uncontami-

LIVE STEPS FAIRFIELD HALLS CROYDON

nated they could have been ejected from Asda for being genetically modified.

But for all their outward equality, there appeared to be an imbalance in their roles. The three girls got to do nearly all the singing and when the handsome Lee was finally brought on alone, it was only to perform a sleazy dance routine. And you couldn't help feeling sorry for "H" the goofy-looking boy with the floppy fringe. His biggest entrance was when he was wheeled on dressed as a lion for a cover of The Lion King

theme time. Musically, Steps are reconstituted Abba. Their formula involves plinky-plonky dance rhythms with saccharine

melodies on a variety of themes: boy meets girl; boy loses girl; boys admits that he bas behaved atrociously, boy wins back girl. In case we didn't get it, a pair of dancers acted out a scene of lovers' reconciliation throughout "This Heart Will Love Again". The girls at the front struggled to fight back the tears.

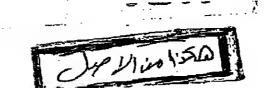
But Steps' showbiz background has served them well. Their stage-school voices were flawless, if a little dull, while their polished good humour

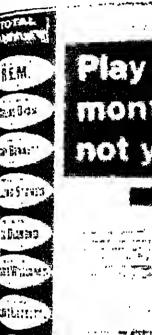
was enough to rival the most kindly Blue Peter presenter. And when it comes to chore ography, Steps must be the first teen act since Take That not to be outshone by their own dancers. You can imagine that when their musical careers dwindle, an aerobics video

won't be far behind. If Pete Waterman hasn't already drawn up a blueprint for their "Step-By-Step" video, I'll forfeit my Steps pop-up

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Child's play

Stuart David plays bass for Brit winners Belle & Sebastian. But listen to what he can do with fridge magnets. By James McNair

n a Greek taverna opposite Glasgow's Queens Park, Stnart David, his wife Karn and his brother Ronnie are quietly sipping at their Cokes with scant regard for the rule that says pop bands should develop an aura. Collectively, this rather sky trio form the spoken-word electronica outfit Looper - a looper, in case you wondered, is someone who's a few Smarties short of a full tube.

To complicate matters, Stuart David also plays bass with Belle & Sebastian, the surprise winners of this year's Brit Award for Best Newcomer. The better known of his two bands was recently disparaged by the bubble gum pop producer Pete Waterman and the rebarbative Jonathan King, and David's phone has been kept busy by vengeful, quote-seeking Scottish abloids ever since. He's somewhat unde whelmed by their attention: Belle & Sebastian haven't capitalised on the situation, so hopefully it'll calm down again,"

Like Belle & Sebastian, Looper are signed to the Glasgow-based label Jeepster (total staff three). It's easy to romanticise about such a cottage-industry set-up, hut Jeepster's roster has become in at Versus, left Christin synonymous with originality and a certain callow charm. "They don't even ask to hear rw. 1992 of houstelly's by your records before they go to the master-ne are neglected groups ing plant," explains David, apropos the

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TO KNOW

label's refreshingly hands-off approach. Jeepster re-releases Belle & Sebastian's hard-to-come-by début Tigermilk in May. Looper's album Up a Tree was released this week, and The Green Fields of Foreverland - a pop/folk solo album by Belle & Sebastian's cellist Isobel Campbell is scheduled for April. These are magical records; flawed, but beguiling; con-

Stuart David (left) with Belle &

temporary, yet tinged with a kind of aural sepia that renders them classic. Stuart David maintains that the ebullient sparkle between the notes is partly down to a lack of record company interference, and the fact that these albums were self-produced.

Although he's always found it easy to write prose, David says that he finds conventional songwriting a bit more prob-

lematic. Up a Tree surmounts this difficulty by blending engrossing spoken-word narratives with intriguing soundscapes. In "Dave the Moonman," for example, the Apollo landings are a metaphor for a sense of possibility in the eponymous hero's own life. As Dave discovers more and more information on the Internet, however, he comes to doubt whether men ever landed on the moon, and we share in his disillusionment. Elsewhere, "Columbo's Car" begins with a sampled double-bass and a chance sighting of the detective's vehicle, then builds into a wildly imaginative conceit in which David and Columbo take turns playing Tetris on a Gameboy.

"A lot of the album is about trying to recapture the playfulness of childhood," says Stuart, "and the sounds on the album and the way it was recorded reflect that."

This scissors and string approach is also evidenced in the album's use of unconventional instrumentation. Looper will attempt to play fridge magnets, or use the zipper on a jacket to simulate the sound of rap scratching. One of Up a Tree's most instantly evocative sound, though, is the tap-tapping of the antique typewriter that introduces "Impossible Things # 2".
"Impossible Things...," it transpires, is

both a love story and a band biography. Its wistful, but never sugary, narrative documents a slow courtship by post; the very



. and with his wife Karn in Looper, who blend spoken-word narratives with soundscapes

one that led to both the formation of Loop-

er, and Stuart's and Karn's marriage. Though Karn has played typewriter and percussion on recent Looper acoustic sessions, and Ronnie is credited as the guitarist on "Festival 95", on the face of it Stuart's band mates seem somewhat superfluous to a project that is patently his baby. Their centrality to the endeavour becomes clear when you consider that Looper are not just a band, but a multi-media experience. Karn tells me that she studied sculpture at Dundee University, and a

pictured on the Looper CD sleeve. She's also working on some animated films that will form part of Looper's live show. Ronnie, meanwhile, is an excellent

stills photographer, and snapped most of the sleeve's portraits and skewed studies. Live, he supplements his guitar-playing duties with spells projecting images to accompany Karn's Super-8 loops.

Naturally, the band's website functions as a virtual art gallery as well as a listening-post for Looper songs. It includes a link site of http://www.frechouse.clara.net

number of her Plasticine miniatures are - to a photographic exhibition of Rounce s in which he imagines his dad as "a spy, not an engineer", some of Karn's animations and the first two chapters of Stuart's forthcoming novel. "All kinds of artists have visited the site, and if their work is interesting, we're happy to let them use our welpages to exhibit," says Karn, Now you know where lo click.

> Looper's debut album 'Up a Tree' is ou! now on Jeepster. You can trisit their well-

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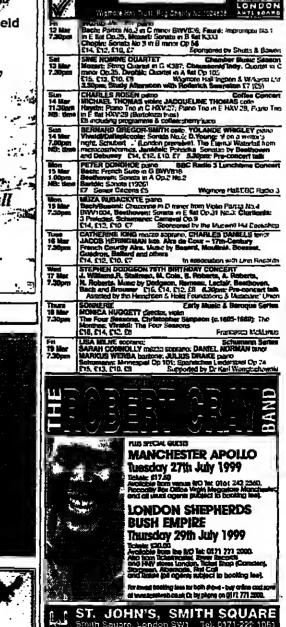
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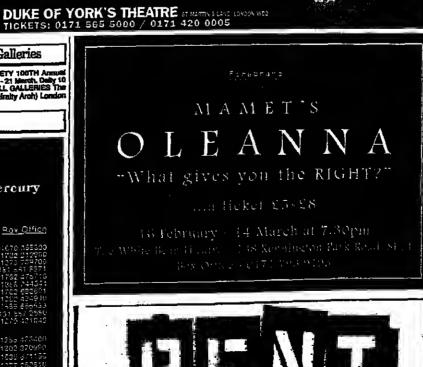
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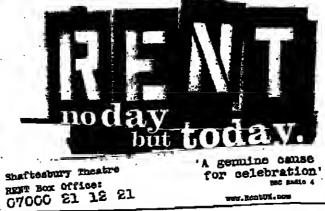
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Back to Jewish roots

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SIGHT READINGS



MICHAEL CHURCH

n 1911 a group of folklorists set out from St Petersburg to comb the Russian shtetis for Jewish songs and chants. Inspired by Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov and led by SM Ansky - author of The Dubbuk - they wanted to record this oral tradition before it evaporated for good. The resulting collection of cylinders was so impressive that the in-. oming Bolsheviks decreed that the ... ork should continue in Kley, and put theu own man in charge. Moses Beregovaky was a good Stalinist and an excellent folklorist, and until his deportation to Siberia in 1949 he recorded and meticulously transcribed several thousand more songs and texts. However, when he was released in 1955 the cylinders were found to have disappeared, and people came to assume that this unique archive had been destroyed.

Now the ebullient Israel Adler, protessor of musicology at the Hebrew the tale. "Four years ago the director of the National Library in Kiev came to see us about photocopying manuscripts and, seeing our cylinder colection, he mentioned that he too had some cylinders, which the American Library of Congress had looked at without much interest. Could this be the Beregovsky collection? I jumped on the first available plane to Kiev, and discovered that it was.'

Last week, in an oddly touching ceremony at London's School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), Adler and his patron Yehudi Menuhin took delivery of an inaugural CD from the Ukrainian ambassador, amid protestations of eternal friendship between Ukrainians and Jews.

Even leaving aside the awkward .natter of past pogroms, the course of this love-affair has been bumpy, with idlev raising endless obstacles to the digitalisation of the recordings ierusaiem wants. While Adier's aim is to make the archive available to scholars all over the world. Kiev's aim is to make a profit. As a Berlin-born Jan Jude. Adler takes this sort of and Oriental Jews through Ethiopia, .idversity for granted. "Whenever hings seem discouraging, I listen



Music from the old country: pieces preserved on the Kiev recordings would not be out of place in 'Fiddler on the Roof' Kobal Collection

again to these marvellous recordings. Then I am re-inspired."

To illustrate the point, he plays some examples: a Bartokian country song with driving rhythms; a dance sounding as if it is straight out of Fiddler on the Roof, an austerely beautiful liturgical chant. When this latter was recently broadcast on Haifa radio, he adds, a middle-aged Israeli rang m to say that he recognised the voice of the cantor. It was his own grandfather.

Jewish music is at present on a roll, but what exactly is it? Alex Knapp, the Joe Loss lecturer at City University, who next month moves to SOAS. offers a neat definition. "Cantillation. Music that traces its origins to the temple chant of 2,000 years ago." But then things get complicated, because the music has absorbed influences from every land where it has alighted. He traces its transmogrifications with the Ashkenazic Jews to America, the Sephardics round the Mediterranean.

Yemen, and eastwards to China. China? "Well, they're not one of the 57 officially recognised minorities, hut there are still 600 Jews living in Kaifeng, and they still retain remnants of the orthodox tradition." Adler has several times lectured on Jewish music at Peking Conservatoire. "The Chinese find Jewish music very moving - they say it comes straight

from the heart

Adler is hot on Jewish music's influence on "daughter religions", as exemplified in Gregorian chant and the music of Islam, but he excludes from his researches most Western music composed by Jews, except when it re-flects a conscious return to its roots. Examples? "Ernest Bloch, Arnold Schoenberg, Darius Milhaud - and Leonard Bernstein".

MEANWHILE SOMETHING extraord nary is happening with that other piece of dinosaur technology, the piano roll. While Nimbus perseveres with its ambitious Grand Piano series, in

ultimate computerised answer. The problem with the robot is one of tonal balance; we get the architecture of the performances, but little sense of their original texture.

Computers have often been used to 'translate" rolls, but never with anything like the finesse of Telarc's two Rachmaninov records, entitled A Window in Time. Wayne Stahnke, an aerospace engineer, apparently conceived his idea while working at Nasa; it involves a computer program con-taining a mathematical model of the pneumatic mechanism originally used to play the roll. But the results, played through a computerised Bösendorfer, banish all thoughts of science. Here at last is the airy magic the unsmiling maestro must have exuded in reality.

ON THE other hand, if you don't mind the boxy acoustic you can get a very decent idea of Rachmaninov's disc which rolls cut by Twenties virtuosi are recordings in Philips's Great Pianists translated into sound by a robot of the 20th Century series. This

pianist, Telarc has just unveiled the month's releases include Jan Paderewski, Benno Moseiwitsch and the divine Clara Haskil, plus an Alfred Cortot record that really does stop me in my tracks. Launching into Schumann's turbulent Kreisleriano, the French guru shoots clean off the rails in bar six and stays off them, floundering desperately, for the whole of the first piece. This isn't great planism; it's an absolute hoot. How can its inclusion

possibly be justified?

Tom Deacon, whose brainchild this series is, sees no reason to apologise. "All right, it's a mess. But he was a great pianist, and his Schumann has a wonderful glow. I'd rather hear his wrong notes than any proficient pianist's right ones. We have every right to put into the edition someone who has his eye on poetry, rather than merely on notes. The saddest th now is to be confronted with Maurizio Pollini in concert, because it has nothing to do with the Pollini we know from records. The pursuit of technical perfection is the curse of modern musical life." I can only agree.

THE COMPACT COLLECTION

ROB COWAN ON THE WEEK'S CD RELEASES

THE YOUNG man whom Tchaikovsky once considered to be his successor, and who went on to pen this century's most famous piano concerto, suffered a devastating blow when, in 1897, his First Symphony was given the critical thumbs down. And yet "Rachmaningy One" positively seethes with Tchaikovskian passion. The outer movements suggest an imperious grandeur that spells Old Russia in every bar, the opening is black as night; the lyrical second subject is serenely beautiful; and the finale's rousing introduction (once used as the theme tune to Panorama) is both fierce and festive It was almost 50 years

enjoyed a second performance, and 20 more before a respectable commercial recording hit the shelves. Since then it has enjoyed the attentions of numerous accomplished maestros. not least Mariss Jansons, whose new EMI recording with the St Petersburg Philharmonic has colossal impact - especially from the lower strings and bass drum. Jansons is especially effective in the finale's dramatic opening, where distant muted horn-calls stop the thrilling first idea dead in

before the symphony

its tracks The fill-up is Rachmaninov's surging evocation of Arnold Bocklin's painting The Isle of the Dead, with its swaying pulse and obsessively swelling lines. The performance is, if anything, even finer, and the sound quality is just as impressive.

Moving south, and with the heat full on, the harpsichordist Andreas Staier lights the touchpaper for some explosive pre-Classical "Variations on the Spanish Fandango". I doubt that many readers will have encountered a more viscerally exciting disc of (relatively) early music - certainly not in performance standards. The opening selection is the best known, Antonio Soler's 10minute Fandango, with its sexy melody line, propulsive rhythms and

scorching harmonies. Staier rounds off his programme in the company of his fellowharpsichordist Christine Schornheim and Adela Gonzales Campa on castanets, for a powerhouse arrangement of the Fandango from Boccherini's Fourth Quintet. Both pieces are wild as the wind - though there are colourful, and occasionally more restful. diversions midway from the composers Sebastian de Albero, Josep Gallés, Felix Máximo Lopez and Jose Ferrer. Once sampled, Staier's sizzling Fandango extravaganza will be a favourite visitor to your CD tray. If you love Domenico Scarlatti, then you'll surely adore this superbly recorded programme.

Sound quality takes something of a backward slide for a bewitching though sonically compromised 77 minutes in the company of the great Polish piano virtuoso Ignaz Friedman. Connoisseurs have been waxing lyrical over Friedman's playing for years, and for good reason. Who else launches Chopin's "Revolutionary" Study with such incredible finger velocity, raising an aural storm in the process hut with every note intact? Mendelssohn's elfin E minor Scherzo is a rocket trailed by stardust; Chopin's A flat Polonaise is all thunder and pride, and Hummel's elegant Rondo becomes a tonal hurricane.

But rather than play the disc straight through, I would start at the very end (track 22) with the most poetic and subtly voiced performance of Chopin's 16th Nocturne ever recorded. Then, you might move back to tracks 1 (Hummel), 8 (Mendelssohn) and 9 (Friedman's own adorable "Elle Danse"). Four previously unissued tracks add further confirmation of Friedman's pianistic genius, and APR's annotation is exemplary.

Rachmaninov/Jansons: EMI CDC5 56754 2 Fandangos/Staier: Teldec 3984-21468-2 Ignaz Friedman:

INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

寿司ガイド



Guide to Sushi

From its origins in Japan 1,000 years ago, Sushi has become a worldwide phenomenon. The Independent on Sunday's Guide to Sushi, published on March 14, outlines Sushi's history and culture, and explains the different varieties. Learn to prepare sushi at home with a simple step-by-step guide, and unlock the mysteries of this delicious, fresh and nutritious food with the Guide to Sushi.



Mr Preview celebrates in style

YOU STILL half-expect to see André Previn emerge as he will surely be remembered: the Beatles-style haircut, the trendy polo-neck dress-shirt, a pop celebrity in classical music. Mr Preview, as Eric Morecambe so memorably dubbed him. What an extraordinary

era that was. But André Previn, senior citizen, the London Symphony Orchestra's Conductor Laureate, will have many good reasons for enjoying the age he now is. Two of them were on the hill of fare for this 70th birthday concert. They were English, naturally. They were old favourites, old affairs still

WHAT A difference a presenter

of informed partisanship can

make to a series such as Com-

tones of Paul Guinery have

taken on a positively passion-

ate urgency in the cause of

Frederick Delius. Less famil-

iar works, such as the violin

and piano sonatas, are not just

shapeless rhapsodies hut

own idiosyncratic processes,

Guinery has argued, program-

ming all four of them to prove

up in Tuesday's edition, with a

specially made recording by

under Vernon Handley of a

substantial score from Delius's

so late a date - had never

Or, at any rate, not all of it.

been performed before.

REVIEW

LSO/ANDRE PREVIN BARBICAN LONDON

ongoing, his constant travelling

The love that Previn has always expressed for Vaughan Williams's Fifth Symphony is self-evident now in his ability to chart its pilgrim's progress without seeming to do so. Where his famous London Symphony Orchestra recording urged us, implored us, to share in the experience, to journey

Life and Love during the First World War, hut was overtaken

by the blindness and paralysis

and performance. Only in 1929.

when he acquired an amanu-

ensis in the young Eric Fenby,

was he able to resume com-

posing by dictation - extracting

passages from the 18-minute

span of A Poem of Life and

a different beginning and end-ing, and publishing the 10-

minute result as A Song of

opportunity to hear one score

after the other on Tuesday

transformation - as if you were

listening to two quite different

share some of the same

Where the opening of A

poser of the Week. Over the last of his final years before he

few days, the familiar Radio 3 could revise it for publication

structures generated by their Love, providing new links and

it. But the most remarkable Summer. If this suggests a

token of his enthusiasm turned process of distillation, the

the BBC Concert Orchestra revealed a far more radical

maturity which - incredibly, at works, which happened to

Delius worked on A Poem of Song of Summer is a serene

limpse at last the "Celestial City", the feeling now is one of head to lend height to the simple contentment in the deep and abiding consolation that Vaughan Williams's Bunyaninspired work invokes.

The piece takes as long as it takes, and as long as it takes will never be quite long enough. The shadowy beasties that inhabit the mercurial scherzo are no longer as flect-footed as they once were (Previn conveniently erases the composer's presto marking), but what was once a labour of love is now no labour at all.

The old Previn (as opposed to old Previn'a) mannerisms

vantage point where we might remain. The arms still float almost involuntarily above the sound, to lift those violins back up to where they belong. The left hand explicitly gestures a more intense vibrato, as if he himself were playing upon the entire section. And I don't think it's too fanciful to suggest that you hear his hard-earned authority in the sound now. The luminous string triads that stretched out before us at the start of the Romanza were both intangible and solid - a vision and a reality. The LSO

strings don't produce that for just anybody. And so to Britten's Spring

Symphony and the delight that darkly nocturnal woodwind. Previn's composerly ear so Roberta Alexander's planplainly takes in it. From the very start, as assorted percussion play out the death-rattle of winter, it's the quirkiness, the English eccentricity of the invention that grabs you. English poetry found its musical match in Benjamin Britten. He could be just as jolly, fey, coy, rumbustious - and profound. He could even be better.

Henry Vaughan's "Waters Above" is ennobled in Britten's setting, the fine rain of string sound in memorable juxtapos-ition to WH Auden's "Out on the Lawn", in which the strings are eliminated in favour of

gent low notes sat well here alongside the mystical musings of alto flute and bass clarinet. Her colleagues - Dame Felicity Lott Gooking very Aubrey Beardsley) and John Mark

Ainsley - were fine, too. And the LSO Chorus, as ever, excelled. That great moment in the finale (spring's last fling) where they beerily hurl out their giddy waltz while children's voices raucously counterpoint "Sumer is icumen in" felt like Previn's birthday present to himself. Younger

than springtime? In spirit. **EDWARD SECRERSON**

ON THE AIR

BAYAN NORTHCOTT



Frederick Delius - a work rediscovered Hulton Getty

seascape, A Poem of Life and - and a central section of Love has a longer, darkly gropheroic landscape evocations ing introduction. There follows an Allegro conspicuously echoing the style of his far earlier

and big climaxes, little of which survives in the more idyllic later score. As Delius left it. A tone-poem Paris - perhaps for Poem of Life and Love is

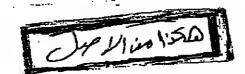
gap in his evolution and offers a fascinating insight into his creative process. Its recording and presentation also remind us that, in a musical environment that is increasingly dominated by the market, there are certain culturally vital services that Radio 3 alone is able to offer.

emergence fills a significant

Half an hour after the Delius première, Radio 4 offered its own variation on life and love in the first of a new series entitled The Musical Side of the Family. This featured the biographer Claire Tomalin recalling her mother, Muriel Herbert - a gifted pianist and song composer who studied at the Royal College of Music with Stanford, pleased Joyce and Yeats with her settings of their poems, and then - after the all-too-familiar pattern lost her creative impetus in suppressed narrative reasons hardly a masterpiece, but its marriage and child-rearing.

A selection of her song programme by the baritone Richard Lloyd-Morgan, suggested an accomplished, if not overly original, style nitched somewhere between the Edwardian balladry of Roger Quilter (who encouraged her) and the more sparely pastoral Gerald Finzi.

Tomalin's purpose, however, was not to plead for a critical reappraisal, but to convey the primal experience of absorbing this music at her mother's knee. Though parently recorde. _. every carefully chosen phrase of her reminiscences came fraught with complex feeling: affection, sadness, a certain guilt perhaps, such as the selfrealised tend to feel about parents who were prevented from fulfilling comparable gifts. extraordinarily touching.



NEW FILMS

CENTRAL STATION (15) Director: Walter Sailes

Starring: Fernanda Montenegro, Vinicius de Oliveira Rio's teeming rail terminus serves as the effective launchpad for Walter Salles's Oscarnominated Brazilian fable. A road-movie of sorts, Central Station trails Fernanda Montenegro's retired schoolmarm and her abandoned nineyear-old charge (played by Vinicius de Oliveira) PLEASANTVILLE (12) on a hunt through the badlands of Sertao for the beer's missing father.

The trip takes in all facets of Brazil's disparate, displaced and poverty-stricken culture, yet Salles steadfastly refuses to make any beavyhanded political point here. Instead, his social critique remains implicit, low-down in the mix. The fine, unshowy acting is set off nicely by Walter Carvalho's haunting visuals, as Central Station blooms by degrees into a picture that is both intimate and universal. West End: Barbican Screen, Cinpham Picture House, Curzon Mayfair, Notting Hill Coronet, Renoir, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Hill, Virgin Chelsea Local: Croydon Clocktower

PATCH ADAMS (12)

Director: Tom Shadyac

Starring: Robin Williams, Monica Potter Through the hallowed halls of medical college goes Hunter "Patch" Adams (Robin Williams); a winsome shock-doc who has the patients in stitches while giving a collective hernia to the study establishment. Patch, you see, subscribes to the theory that laughter is the best medicine of all. Idling on your deathbed? Well, here's Patch to stick an enema hulb on his snout and send you off with a smile. Still not happy? No problemo: Patch has a whole heap more comedy tricks up the sleeves of his regulation white coat. Still that's Potch Adams: Awakenings without the angst, Dead Poets Society without the beart. It's like the ultimate distillation of

the ultimate Robin Williams movie: the life sucked out and replaced by syrup. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

Director: Gary Ross

Starring: Tobey Maguire, Reese Witherspoon See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: Barbican Screen, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

SCHIZOPOLIS (18)

Director: Sleven Soderbergh Starring: Sleven Soderbergh

Between Soderbergh's The Underneath (a boxoffice bomb) and last year's Out of Sight (a hit) came Schizopolis: a stop-gap experiment, a beaten retreat into art-house abstraction and evidence, perhaps, of a director in crisis.

Pieced together on a thrift-shop budget, Schizopolis is a bit of cinematic crazy-paving. Suburban manners, corporate paranoia, dental hygiene and the rituals of adultery are all constructed in energetic, scattergun fashion, though it's finally a shade too film-school wacky to warm to. While Schizopolis is undeniably the strangest film in the "American Independence" season that it's headlining, some of the other offerings (Clockwatchers, or Spike Lee's Four Little Girlst are more rounded and satisfying. Eye of God, Niagara Niagara and Sticky Fingers of Time are also showing. West End: Curzon Soho

Xan Brooks

GENERAL RELEASE

AFFLICTION (151 Seg-The Independent Recommends, above, West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue

Jonathan Demme's adaptation of Toni Morrison's multi-layered Pulitzer Prize-winner. Oprah Winfrey's escapee slave struggles to cope with a visitation from a bewitched voodoo child who may tor may not) be the ghost of her dead daughter. Heartfelt acting and a vibrant visual sense paper over all manner of cracks. West End: Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

A BUG'S LIFE (T)

A Bug's Life sees humble insect Flik falling in with a raggle-taggle flea circus in an effort to save his community from marauding grasshoppers theaded by Kevin Spaceyl. The script throws in passably witty gags and the animation proves a fest of technical ingenuity. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Odd 'n Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marile Arch. Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza. Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

FESTEN (THE CELEBRATION) (151

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Chelsea Cinema, Clapham Picture See The Independent Recommends, above. House, Curzon Soho. Screen on Baker Street

HIDEOUS KINKY (151

Through the teeming orange/red/turquoise backdrop of 1970s Morocco treads Kate Winslet's bipple single-mum, her two daughters unwillingly in low. Winslet does well with a change-of-pace role as the tale's permanently strung-out, unsated matriarch, and the child stars are startlingly good. West End: ABC Swiss Centre, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Renoir, Virgin Fulhnm Road

HILARY AND JACKIE :151

Full-throttle playing from Rachel Griffiths and Emily Watson sustains Anand Tucker's warts-andall hippic of the Du Pre sisters. West End: ABC Panton Street, Curzon Soho, Local: Richmond Odeon Studio

HOLY MAN (PG)

Jeff Goldhlum plays Ricky, a TV executive. Fearful for his job, Ricky uses spiritual wanderer G (Eddie Murphy) as a frontman on his shopping show and sales go through the roof. G. in turn. teaches Ricky a few soulful lessons - you know, about life and stuff. Parts of Holy Mnn are funny, but the crossfire. To the rescue comes Julie Walters's film never finds the right tone. Local cinemas

HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (151 factions. Roger Micbell's fact-based fable is Essentially this is Shirley Valentine with an well-intentioned and honestly rendered, but it's Afro-American spin. but Angela Bassett works hard to make an impression among the slideshow of tourist-brochure visuals. West End: Firgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (LA VITA È BELLA) (PGI In Roberto Benigni's Oscar-nominated comedy he takes centre-stage as a clowning Jewish bookseller in fascist Italy. Spirited off to a death camp, he strives to convince his son that it's nothing more than an eccentric game. West End: Curzon Soho. Curzon Minema, Odeon Kensington, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Hill UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Hnymarket Repertory: Phoenix Cinema. And local cinemas

PAINTED ANGELS (15)

Jon Sanders' revisionist western revolves around a frontier brothel presided over by Brenda Fricker's no-nonsense madam. Earthv. naturalistic acting goes hand in hand with Ge" ld Packer's evocative visuals, though the resolutely downbeat handling makes it slow-going at times. West End: Renoir

PERDITA DURANGO (18)

Alex De La Iglesia's quasi-sequel to David Lynch's Wild at Heart is a strutting caper. posturing wackiness. West End: Metro

Darren Aronofsky's pungent début idles between maths lesson and art class, as Sean Gullete's New York number-cruncher ponders a numerical code behind the boly Hebrew texts. What sustains Pi is the pure-blood ingenuity of its central conceit, its ongoing "mathematics is the language of nature" mantra and the louche, too-cool-for-school demeanour. It all adds up. West End: ABC Panton Street

SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (15)

In Steven Spielberg's Second World War drama, Captain John Miller (Tom Hanks) is dispatched with his squad oo a compassionate mission to seek out a young private behind enemy lines - his three brothers have already been killed in combat - and return him home to safety. West End: Plaza. And local cinemas

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road. Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

THE THIN RED LINE (15)

West End: Clapham Picture House, Gate Notting Hill Odeon Camden Town. Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsen, Virgin Fulham Road. And local einemas

THIS YEAR'S LOVE (18)

A cast of Britain's finest (Kathy Burke, Ian Hart, Douglas Henshall et al) weave to and fro through David Kane's Camden-set essay on urban romance. Kane's screenplay is generally witty and well-observed, but the film cranks what might have been a sublime one-hour teleplay into double its natural length. Still, that's modern romance for you - you can't fit it into tidy boxes, no matter how hard you try. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch. Odeon West End. Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleus, And local cinemas

TITANIC TOWN (15)

All aboard for Troubles-hit Belfast, circa 1972. The IRA and British forces are taking potshots at each other in the street. Civilians are dying in the concerned local mum, who lobbies for a ceasefire and finds herself caught between the opposing faintly lightweight, too. For a film implicitly about rage, waste and human passions, it's low on dramatic oomph. West End: ABC Swiss Centre

URBAN LEGEND (18)

Jamie Blanks's stalk-and-slash romp is a strangely bland and inconsequential bloodbath: fresh-faced teens meeting their grisly end in a drama as cold and schematic as a daytime talk show. West End: Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS (18) Another troubling X-ray of American mores from In the Company of Men director Neil LaBute. West End: ABC Piccodilly. Metro

YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG)

Seasoned players Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan star in a contrived romantic comedy that's zapped out of its old-fashioned rut by a shrewd Internet plot hook they squabble in daily life and get all gooev on line. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch. Odeon Swiss Cottage, Screen on Baker Street. UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin tequila-ed to the gills and running on a kind of Haymarket, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

Festen (15) Danish director Thomas Vinterberg's superlative black comedy (right) concerns the 60th birthday of a family patriarch who finds himself at the centre of dark secrets that unexpectedly emerge.

The Thin Red Line (15)

Terrence Malick returns to the screen after a 20-year absence with a hugely ambitious film about the battle of Guadakanal. A war movie of a sort, though what that sort might be is uncertain.

Affliction (15) Paul Schrader's bleak study in fatherhood and

fatalism, adapted from Russell Banks's novel, stars Nick Nolte as a man struggling to escape the influence of his violent dad (James Coburn).

Shakespeare in Love (15) This enjoyable romp suggests how romance fired

Shakespeare with the creative inspiration for Romeo and Juliet. Joseph Fiennes and Gwyneth Paltrow head a multi-star cast.

Pleasantville (12)

Two Nineties teenagers are magicked into the world of a favourite Fifties sitcom and begin to exert a dramatic influence on its conformist hlack-andwhite idyll. A witty, inventive parable.

ANTHONY OUINN

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

Shockheaded Peter

(Lyric Hammersmith, London) The deliciously sinister Struwwelpeter stories meet the macabre Tiger Lillies in a glorious, gorgeously gory evening of music theatre. To 10 Apr

Blue Heart (The Pleasance, London) Bracing comedy and a dark heart in Max Stafford-Clark's exemplary production of Caryl Churchill's playful doublebill (right). To 21 Mar

(The Albery, London)

Sheila Hancock as the tight-fisted matriarch leads a triumphant cast in Gorky's comedy. To 27 Mar The Dispute

(The Other Place, Stratford)

Marivaux's mordant 18th-century play about a sexual experiment is brought to life in this

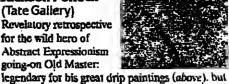
RSC/Lyric Hammersmith co-production. To 20 Mar **Buried Alive** (Northcott, Exeter)

Mike Alfreds' crack company, Method and Madness, in a new play by Philip Osment, specialist in matters of the heart. To 27 Mar

DAVID BENEDICT

THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Jackson Pollock (Tate Gallery) Revelatory retrospective for the wild hero of Abstract Expressionism going-on Old Master:



widely unshown here for 40 years. To 6 Jun Portraits by Ingres (National Gallery) Some of the most intense portraiture ever. Exquisite melanges of flesh and fabric, dreams of

Monet in the 20th Century

(Royal Academy) The gardens and lily ponds at Giverny dissolve into fiery lights, liquid reflections, depths and voids, and, in the circumstances, you will too. To 18.4pr

Disasters of War

sex and money. To 25 Apr

(Wolverhampton Art Gallery) Three ages of European war through the etchings of Jacques Callot, Goya and Otto Dix. Black-and-white visions from the blackest of times. To 20 Mar

Richard Deacon

(Tate Gallery, Liverpool) New World Order": more curvaceous assemblages of wood, metal, glass and plastic - some gigantic. some humble - by the Eighties sculptor. To 16 May

Том Евавоск

CINEMA WEST END

ABC PANTON STREET 8.15pm Hilary and Jackie 2.25pm. 5.25pm. 8.20pm Lock, Stock & 3.40pm, 6.10pm. 8.35pm x (PI) 1.30pm, 3.35pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-287 4322) ← Piccadilly Circus Loved 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.15pm. 8.35pm Your Friends and Neighbors 1.40pm, 4,05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0870-902 0402) & Leicester Square Affliction 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Elizabeth 6.05pm, 8.30pm E 1.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0870-902 0414) & Tottenham-Court Road A. Bug's Life 4pm Patch Adams 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm Shakespeare in Love 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.25pm You've Got M@il 1pm, 6.10pm, 9.15pm

(0171-638 8891) & Moorgate Pleasantville 6pm, 8,40pm CHELSEA CINEMA

(0171-351 3742] Square Festen 2pm, 4,15pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE
10171-498 3323) Clapham
Common Central Station 1.45pm,
4.20pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Festen 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Festen 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm Shakespeare in Love 1.30pm, 6.30pm The Thin Red Line 1.15pm, 4.45pm, 8.15pm You've

CURZON MAYFAIR 10171-369 17201 & Green Park Central Station 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

CURZON MINEMA (0171-369 1723) Hyde Park Corner/Knightsbridge La Vita è Bella 3pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm CURZON SOHO

10171-734 2255 (12noon-6pm]] Leicester Square/Tottenham
Court Road Festen 2.15pm. 4.30pm. 7pm. 9.30pm Four Little Girls 12.15pm. 9.15pm H/lary and Jackle 6.45pm Schizopolis 4.45pm La Vita è Bella I pm. 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE 7.20pm Patch Adams 1pm. 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm, 11.40pm The Prince of Egypt 1.15pm Psycho 11.15pm Shakespeare in Love 12.15pm. 3pm. 6pm. 8.45pm. 11.30pm

GATE NOTTING HILL

(0171-734 1506) & Piccadilly Circus Perdita Durango 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.15pm Your Friends and Neighbors 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm NOTTING HILL CORONET

10171-727 6705) @ Notting Hill Gate Central Station 3.30pm. брт, 8.40**рт** OPEON CAMDEN TOWN

(08705-050007) & Camden Town A Bug's Life 11.40am. 1.35pm Patch Adams 12.05pm. 3.35pm. Patch Adams 12.05m, 6.05pm, 8.45pm, 11.15pm Pleasantville 11.45am, 2.20pm, 11.10pm 8.25pm, 11.10pm Shakespeare in Love 2.55pm, 8.20pm, 11.00pm The Thin Red Line 11.55am, 3.25pm, 7.40pm, 11.05pm This Year's Love 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm, 11.20pm You've Got M@il 12.35pm, 5.50pm

ODEON HAYMARKET 108705-050007) ← Piccadilly Circus 5tepmom 12.35pm, 3.10pm, 5 50pm. 8.30pm ODEON KENSINGTON

(08705-050007) S High Street Kertsington Patch Adams 12.40pm. 3.35pm. 6.30pm. 9.30pm, Kensington Pazor 7888 9.30pm, 3.35pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm, 12.25am Pleasantville 12.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm

Shakespeare In Love 12.25pm, 3.20pm. 6.15pm. 9.10pm. 12.05am The Thin Red Line 12.45pm, 4.25pm, 8.05pm, 11.45pm This Year's Love 12.15am La Vica è Bella 1.05pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm, You've Got Medi 3.50pm, 12.05am 12,50pm, 3,45pm, 9.35pm, 12.30am 6.40pm,

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE

ODEON MARBLE ARCH Enemy of the State 11,50pm Patch Adams 12,55pm, 3,40pm, 6,30pm, 9,10pm, 11,55pm Pleasantwille 12,40pm, 3,25pm, 6,10pm, 9,15pm Shakespeare in Love 12,50pm, 3,35pm, 6,20pm, 9,05pm The Thin Red Line 1,05pm, 4,35pm, 8,10pm, 11,40pm ThIs Year's Love 12midnight You've Got M@il 12,45pm, 3,30pm, 6,15pm, 9pm, 11,45pm 9pm, 11.45pm

ODEON MEZZANINE 12.35pm, 3.05pm, 5.05pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The Siege 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Stepmom 12.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE (08705-050007) Swiss Cottage Hideous Kinky 6.10pm Lal Badshah 1pm, 4.30pm, 7.50pm Patch Adams 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Pleasantville 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare In Love 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 8.25pm The Thin Red Line 12.35pm, 4.05pm, 7.45pm You've Got M@II 12.15pm. 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm

ODEON WEST END 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm This Year's Love 1.15pm, 3.40pm. 6.15pm, 8.50pm

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA (0171-494 4153] → Piccadilly Circus Everest 4.45pm, 9,05pm L5 (IMAX) 2.40pm, 7pm T-Rest Back to the Cretaceous (3-D) 1.35pm, 3.40pm, 5.45pm, 8pm, 10.05pm

PLAZA

10990-8889901 ← Piccadilly Circus
A Bug's Life 1pm. 3.15pm

Pleasantville 12.15pm, 3pm.
5.45pm, 8.45pm Saving Private
Ryan 12.30pm. 4.15pm, 7.45pm
Star Trek: Insurrection 6pm.
8.30pm The Truman Show
1.45pm, 4pm. 6.30pm, 9pm

(0171-837 8402] ◆ Russell Square Central Station 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.25pm. 8.45pm Hideous Kinky 1.50om, 6.35pm Painted Angels

RITZY CINEMA (0171-733 2229) BR/O Brixton Beloved 8.40pm, 12midnight Central Station 2.15pm, 4.35pm, 6.55pm, 9.15pm, 11.35pm La Grande Illusion 1.55pm Pleasantville 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm, 11.50pm Shakespeare in Love 1.45pm, 6.40pm The Thin Red Line 1.30pm, 4.50pm, 8.10pm, 11.30pm This Year's Love 4.20pm, 9.10pm, 11.40pm La Vita e Bella 3.35pm, 6.10pm RITZY CINEMA

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772] ♥ Baker 5treet The Celebration 3.10pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm You've Got M@il 3.35pm, 6.10рт, 8.40рт

(0171-226 3520) → Angel The Thin Red Line 3pm, 7.30pm SCREEN ON THE HILL

La Vita è Bella 2.10pm, 6.50pn

UCI WHITELEYS 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm Madeline 2pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.25pm, 9.10pm leasantville 12.30pm, 3.30pm. 6.30pm, 9.20pm Shakes Love 1.20pm, 3,55pm, 6,40pm, 9.30pm The Thin Red Line 12.15pm, 4.30pm, 8.20pm This Year's Love 4.20pm. 7pm. 9.40pm La Vita è Bella 12noon. 3.10pm, 6pm, 9pm You've Got M@II 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm

VIRGIN CHELSEA [0870-907 0710) ↔ 5koanie Square/South Kensington Central Station 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9pm

Pleasantville 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 1pm. 4.30pm, 8pm La Vita è Bella 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm,

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD
(0870-907 0711) South
Kensington Hideous Kinky 2pm,
4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Little
Voice 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 7pm,
9.20pm Patch Adams 1.10pm,
3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm
Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm,
3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8,50pm The
Thin Red Line 1.20pm, 5.10pm,
8.40pm You've Got M@il 1pm,
3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm

VIRGIN HAYMARKEY (0870-907 0712) & Piccadilly Circus Pleasantville 12.25pm, 3,05pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm La Vita è Bella 12.50pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm You've Got M@il 12.40pm, 3.15pm, 5.55pm, 8.45pm

VIRGIN TROCADERO
(0870-907 0716) © Piccadilly
Crcus Beloved 12.50pm, 4.20pm,
8pm A Bug's Life 12.05pm,
2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.35pm
Bulworth 9pm Enemy of the
State 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm,
8.30pm, 11.20pm The Exordst
(25th Anniversary Rerelease)
11.30pm How Stelfa Got her
Groove Back 11.30pm Patch
Adams 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.50pm,
8.40pm, 11.30pm Shakespeare In
Love 12noon, 2.40pm, 5.30pm,
8.20pm, 11.20pm Urban Legend
12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm,
8.40pm, 11.10pm You've Got
M@II 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.40pm
8.50pm, 11.30pm 8.50pm, 11.30pm

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) ◆ Leicester Square (0171-437 4343) & Leicester Square Belowed 1.20pm, 4.50pm, 8.20pm A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.25pm Bulworth 3.55pm, 8.50pm, 11.25pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 11.50pm The Opposite of Sex 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm, 11.10pm Bleesenthille 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 11.10pm Pleasantville 12noon, 3pm. 11.10pm Pleasantville 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm, 11.50pm Practical Magic 12.55pm, 6pm Rushi Houz 11.50pm, 11.50pm, 11.50pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm, 11.35pm Very Bad Things 1.40pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm, 11.30pm You've Gor M@il 12noon, 12.50pm, 2.50pm, 3.30pm, 5.40pm, 6.20pm, 12mdnight.

CINEMA LONDON LOCALS

ACTON
PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE
(0181-896 0066) Park Royal
Beloved 2,40pm, 6.10pm A Bug's
Life 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 5.40pm.
7.50pm, 10pm Enemy of the State
11.20pm How Stella Got her
Groove Back 12.35am Patch
Adams 1,40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm,
9.50pm, 12.30am Pleasantville
1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm,
12.20am Shakespeare In Love
1.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm
The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm
The Thin Red Line 12.40pm,
1.50pm, 4.10pm, 5.20pm, 8pm,
9pm, 11.40pm This Year's Love
9.40pm, 12midnight Urban Legend
1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm,
11.50pm Very Bad Things 12.10am
You've Got M@il 12.30pm, 3.20pm,
6pm, 8.40pm, 11.30pm

ODEON (08705-050007) & High Barnet A Bug's Life 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm Patch Adams 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm Pleasantville 12.45pm. 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm. 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm. The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 3.50pm, 7.45pm You've Got M@ll 6.20pm, 8.45pm

ABC (0870-902 0412) BR: Beckenham Junction A Bug's Life 4pm Jack Frost 1pm Pater Adams 12.45pm, 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare In Love 1.15pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm You've Got M@8 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm

BEXLEYHEATH

CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: Bedeyheath A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 5.40pm, 7.50pm Little Voice 2.15pm, 7pm, 11.40pm Patch Adams 12noon, 2.25pm, 4.50pm. 7,20pm, 9,45pm, 12,10am Pleas-antville 1,40pm, 4,20pm, 7,05pm, 9.40pm, 12.10am Saving Private Ryan 12.25pm, 4.25pm, 8pm, 11.20pm Shakespeare In Love 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm, 11.45pm Stepmon 1.20pm, 4.15pm, 7pm The Thin Red Line 11.45pm Stepmom 2.50pm, 4.20pm, 7.50pm, .20pm This Year's Love 9.50pm. 12.20am Urban Legend 9.35pm, 11.45pm La Vita è Bella 4.30pm, 9.15pm You've Got M@II 12.25pm, 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pr 12.15am

BROMLEY
ODEON (08705-050007) BR:
Bromley North/Bromley South A
Bug's, Life 12.25pm, 2.40pm,
4.55pm Patch Adams 1.35pm,
4.25pm, 7.05pm, 9.35pm Pleasantville 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm,
9.40pm The Tith Red Line 1.15pm,
5.05pm, 8.30pm You've Got M@II
7.10pm, 9.45pm

CATFORD ABC (0181-461 1278) BR: Catford Patch Adams 2.25pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Saving Private Ryan 3pm, 7.30pm

CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: West/East Croydon Central Station 3,30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm + Short SAFARI (0181-688 3422] BR: West Croydon A Bug's Life 5,40pm Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Hain 8pm, 11.15pm Lal Baadshah 11pm Patch Adams 5.30pm, 8.10pm, 10.45pm You've Got M@I 5.35pm, 8.20pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon A Bug's Life 1pm, 3.30pm, 4.10pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Enemy of the State 11.10pm How Stella Got her Groove Back 12.10am Patch Adams 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm, 12.25am Pleasantville 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm, 12.05am Shakespeare in Love 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm The Thin Red Line 1.40pm, 5.05pm, 8.25pm, 11.55pm This Year's Love 2pm, 4.35pm, 7.10pm, 9.55pm, 12.30am Urban Legend 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.45pm, 12.15am You've Got M@il 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm, 11.40pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680

DAGENHAM ARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) & Dagenham Heathway A Bug's Life 1.50pm, 3,55pm, 6.10pm, 8.20pm, 10.40pm Patch Adams 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm, 11.20pm Pleasantville 8.50pm, 11,20pm Preasantville 1.30pm, 4.05pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm, 12.10am Shakespeare in Love 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm The Hith Red Line 2pm, 4.50pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm, 9pm, 11.30pm This Year's Love 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 2.20pm, 11.50pm Hithau Legged 1.25pm, 4.4upm, /pm, 9.20pm, 11.50pm Urban Legend 2.50pm, 5.05pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm, 12midnight Very Bad Things 11.25pm You've Got M@ti 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm, 11.50pm

EALING VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-907 0719) BR/OF Ealing Broad-way Patch Adams 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 9pm The Thin Red Line 4.30pm, 8.15pm You've Got M@li 2.20pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm

EDGWARE BELLE-VUE |0181-381 2556] + Edgware Aa Ab Laut Chalen phone for times Daag phone for times Fire Phone for times Kachche Dhaage phone for times Kuch Kuch Hota Hall phone for times You've Got M@11 5.30pm, 8.20pm Zakhm phone for

LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990] © Tottenham Hale Beloved 7.30pm, 11pm A Bug's Life 1.45pm, 2.50pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.45pm, 10.10pm Everny of the State 11.40pm Holy Man of the State 11.40pm Holy Man 12.20am How Stella Got her Groove Back 8.50pm, 11.30pm Hum Aapke Hain Koun.,! 5.15pm Patch Adams 12.50pm, 3.45pm 6.25pm, 9.20pm, 12midnight Pleasantville 1.10pm, 4pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Rush Hour 12.10am Saving Private Ryan 3.30pm Shake-speare in Love 1.15pm, 3.55pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm The Thin Red Line 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 5pm, 7.55pm, 8.30pm, 11.20pm This Year's Love 2.10pm, 6.45pm, 7.05pm, 9.50pm Urban Legend 7.15pm, 10pm, 12.30am La Vita è Bella 3.05pm, 6.05pm, 9pm You've Got M@il 12.40pm, 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm, 11.50pm

FLEPHANT AND CASTLE CORONET (0171-703 4968) BR/Q Elephant & Castle Patch Adams 3.40pm. 6.05pm. 8.30pm This Year's Love 4.05pm. 6.15pm. 5.50pm, 8.25pm

FELTHAM CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-867 0555) BR: Feltham Aa Ab Laut Chalen 11.10am, 2.35pm, 6.15pm 9.45pm A Bug's Life 11am. 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.50pm Daag 2.40pm, 9.20pm Hum Aapke Ham Koun..! 11.20am, 6pm Kachche Dhaage 11.30am, 5.45pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hal 11.30pm La Warls 2.30pm, 9pm Lai Badshah 11.30am, 3pm, 8.10pm, 9.50pm Little Voice: 6pm My Name is Joe 12midnight Patch Adams 11.30am. 2pm. 4.30pm. 7pm. 9.30pm, 12midnight Pleasantville 11am, 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm, 12midnight Saving Private Ryan 1.30pm, 5.10pm, 8.50pm

Shakespeare in Love 1pm. 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Stepmom 11,50am, 2.20pm, 7,20pm The Thin Red Line 11.20am, 1pm, 2.40pm, 4.30pm, 6.10pm, 8pm, 2.40pm, 4.30pm, 6.10pm, 8pm, 9.40pm, 11.30pm This Year's Love 11.30am, 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm, 11.15pm Urban Legend 5pm, 9.50pm, 12.20am You've Got M@ll 11.10am, 1.50pm, 4.25pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Zakhm 11.40pm

WARNER VILLAGE FINCHLEY

WARNER VILLAGE FINCHLEY ROAD (0171-604 3059) & Finchley Road A Bug's Life 1.30pm. 3.50pm, 6.10pm. 8.20pm Patch Adams 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm Pleasantville 1.15pm, 3.55pm, 6.40pm. 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm The Thin Red Line 1 pm, 2pm, 4.25pm, 5.30pm, 8pm, 9pm This Year's Love 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Urban Legend 10.25pm You've Got M@il 12.40pm, 3.25pm, 6.05pm, 8.45pm

3.25pm, 6.05pm, 8.45pm

WARNER VILLAGE NORTH
FINCHLEY (0181-446 9344)

De East Finchley/Finchley Central
A Bug's Life 12noon, 2.10pm,
4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm Enemy
of the State 11.20pm Patch
Adams 12.55pm, 3.30pm,
6.15pm, 9pm, 11.50pm Pleasantville, 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm,
9.20pm Shakespeare in Love
12.35pm, 3.20pm, 6pm 9.10pm
The Thin Red Line 12.45pm,
4.40pm, 8.40pm This Year's Love
4.45pm, 9.50pm, 12.15am Urban Legend 1.15pm, 3.40pm,
7.20pm, 9.40pm Very Bad Things
11.50pm La Vita è Bella 2pm,
7.10pm You've Got M@il 1.05pm,
3.50pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm

GOLDERS GREEN Green Patch Adams 2.45pm.

GREENWICH GREENWICH CINEMA (0181-293 0101] BR: Greenwich Pleas-antylle 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm. antylie 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm, 11.30pm Shakespeare in Love 7pm The Thin Red Line 4pm, 7.30pm, 10.55pm This Year's Love 11.45pm You've Got M@il

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0870-907 0718] ← Ravenscourt Park A Bug's Life phone for times Jungle 2 Jungle phone for times Patch Adams phone for times Shakespeare in Love phone for times The Thin Red Une phone for times You've Got M@il phone

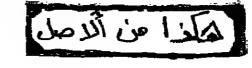
HAMPSTEAD ABC (0870-902 0413) ↔ Belsize Park A Bug's Life 1.15pm Jack Prost 1.05pm Patch Adams 2.15pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 2.35pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm You've Got M@il 2pm, 5.40pm. 8.20pm

SAFARI (0181-426 0303) & Har-row-on-the-Hill/Harrow & Weald-stone Fire 7pm Hum Aapke Hain Koun...! 1.30pm, 5pm, 8.45pm Lal

Baadshah 8.45pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009] & Harrow-on-the-Hill Beloved 6.20pm A Bug's Life 11.20am, 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Enemy of the State 10.50pm Patch Adams 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm, 11.30pm Pleasantville 12.50pm, 3.40pm 6.30pm, 9.15pm, 12mid-3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9 15pm, 12midnight Shakespeare in Love 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 7pm, 9.40pm The Thin Red Line 12.50pm. 1.50pm, 3.50pm, 5.30pm, 7.40pm, 9pm, 11.10pm This Year's Love 12.20pm, 3.25pm, 9.55pm Urban Legend 12Aoon, 3pm, 5.20pm. Legend 12Aoon, 3pm, 5.20pm. 7.50pm, 10.10pm, 12.20am Very Bad Things 12.20am You've Got M@1 1.20pm. 4pm, 6.45pm. 9.30pm, 12.10am

HOLLOWAY ODEON (08705-050007) & Holloway Road Beloved 1.35pm. 5.10pm. 8.45pm A Bug's Life 1pm, 3.20pm, 5.35pm, 7.50pm, 10.05pm Patch Adams 1.55pm. 4.30pm, 7.05pm, 9.45pm Pleas-antville 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 1.10pm, 4.05pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm The Thin Red Line 1.20pm. 4.55pm, 8.40pm This Year's Love 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm You've Got M@il 1.25pm, 4 10pm. 6.55pm, 9,40pm

ODEON (08705-050007] @ Gants ODEON (08705-050007] ◆ Gants Hill A Bug's Life 11.55am, 2pm, 4pm, 6.05pm Madeline 12.40pm Patch Adams 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Pleasantville 12noon, 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.05pm The Thin Red Line 12.35pm, 4pm, 7.30pm You've Got M@II 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm 5.40pm, 8.20pm



KILBURN TRICYCLE CINEMA (0171-328 1000) & Kilbum La Vita è Selle 4pm, 7pm, 9.15pm

KINGSTON ABC OPTIONS (0870-902 0409) BR: Kingston Jack Frost 12.50pm. 3.05pm Patch Adams 2.30pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.05pm You've Got M@il 2.20pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm

MUSWELL HILL **ODEON** (08705-050007) ↔ Highgate A Bug's Life 2.15pm, 4.15pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 1.25pm, 4.35pm, 7.50pm This Year's Love 6.20pm You've Got M@N 8.40pm

PECKHAM PECKHAM PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye Beloved 4.15pm, 7.35pm, 10.55pm A Bug's Life 5pm, 7pm How Stella Got her Groove Back 9.05pm 11.40pm The Parent Trap 1.50pm Patch Adams 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm, 11.30pm Pleasantville 4.10pm. 6.40pm, 9.10pm, 11,45pm The Prince of Egypt 11,45am The Thin Red Line 4,10pm, 7,30pm. 10.55pm You've Got M@il 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm, 11.50pm

PURLEY ABC (0870-902 0407) BR: Purley Patch Adams 5.40pm, 8.20pm Pleasantville 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 7.55pm You've Got M@II 2.05pm.

PUTNEY PUTNEY
ABC (0870-902 0401) & Putney
Bridge, BR: Putney, Patch Adams
2.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 2.15pm, 6.30pm,
9.15pm You've Got M@il 2.15pm,
6.30pm, 9.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm

RICHMOND ODEON (08705-050007) BR - Rich mond Patch Adams Ipm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm The Thin Red Line 12.50pm, 4,30pm,

ODEON STUDIO (08705-050007) BR. & Richmond A Bug's Life 2.30pm. 4.50pm. 7.10pm Hilary and Jackie 1.30pm Little Voice 9.30pm Pleasantville 1 pm, 3.40pm 6.20pm Pleasantwise Ipm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm. 9pm This Year's Love 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm You've Got M@II 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm

ABC (0870-902 0419) BR: Romford. Patch Adams 2,10pm, 5,10pm, 8.10pm Pleasantville 2.20pm 5.20pm. 8.20pm You've Got M@i 2.35pm. 5.30pm. 8.40pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705-050007) BR: Romford A Bug's Life 12,10pm. 2pm, 2,30pm, 4,15pm, 4,50pm. 6.30pm, 7pm, 8,40pm Patch Adams 12,45pm, 3,30pm, 6,40pm, 9,15pm 7.30pm This Year's Love 1.30pm. 4.40pm, 6.55pm, 9.15pm Urban Legend 9.10pm You've Got M@ll 12,15pm, 3pm, 5,45pm, 8,20pm

ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup Patch Adams 2.20pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Saving Private Ryan

STAPLES CORNER

VIRGIN (0870-907 0717) BR: Cricklewood A Bug's Life 2.15pm. .35pm, 7pm How Stella Got her Groove Back 11.45pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm, 12midnlight Pleasantville 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm, 12midnlight Shakespeare In Love 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8,50pm, 11.45pm The Thin Red Line 1.15pm, 4.45pm, 8.20pm This Year's Love 9.15pm. 12midnight Urban Legend 12mid-3.45pm. 6.20pm, 9pm

STRATFORD NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366(BR/+O Stratford East A Bug's Life 1.30pm. 3.35pm Patch Adams 12.45pm. 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm Pleas-antville 2.40pm, 5.20pm, 8pm, 10.35pm The Thin Red Line 3pm 6.20pm. 9.45pm This Year's Love 10.45pm You've Got M@il 5pm, 7.45pm, 10.15pm

STREATHAM ABC (0870-902 0415) PR: Streatharn Hill Patch Adams 2.15pm. 5.45pm. 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love n, 5.35pm, 8.25pm This Year's Love 5.25pm, 8.30pm

ODEON (08705-050007) BR: 5treatham Hill: Brixton Beloved 1.15pm. 4.45pm. 8.15pm A Bug's Life 12.20pm, 2.40pm. 5pm. 7.20pm How Stella Got her Groove Back 9 35pm Pleasantville 1.30pm. 4 10pm, 6 50pm, 9, 30pm The Thin Red Line I.10pm, 4.40pm, 8.10pm You've Got M@II 1 40pm, 4.20pm.

SURREY OUAYS UCI (0990-888990) & Surrey Quays Beloved 8.30pm A Bug's Life 1 05pm, 2pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm. epm. 8.40pm Holy Man 1 2 midnight How Stella Got her Groove Back 11pm Jack Frost 2.10pm. 4 40pm Uttle Voice 5.50pm Madeline 1 30pm, 3.40pm Patch Adams 12.50pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9 10pm, 11.50pm Pleasantville 12.15pm, 3.10pm, 6.20pm, 9pm, 11.40pm Shakespeare in Love 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Stepmom pm The Thin Red Line 1.2.40pm, 4.15pm, 8pm This Year's Love 6.50pm, 9.30pm Urban Leg-end 9.40pm, 12.05am You've Got M@il 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm.

UC1 6 (0990-888990) BR; Sutton & Morden A Bug's Life 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Little Voice 7pm Madeline 2.15pm Patch Adams 12.50pm, 3.45pm, 6 30pm, 9.15pm, 11,45pm Shake-speare in Love 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm, 12midnight There's Something About Mary 11.15pm The Thin Red Line 12.35pm, 4.15pm, 8pm, 11.30pm This Year's Love 9.20pm, 11.50pm You've Got M@II 4.30pm. 7.10pm. 9.45pm, 12.15am

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-688 2519) + Turnpike Lane. Patch Adams 3.40pm. 6.05pm, 8.30pm This Year's Love 4.05pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Urban Legend 3.45pm. 6pm, 8.40pm

UXBRIDGE ODEON (08705-050007) @ Urdyridge A Bug's Life 11.15am. 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm The Thin

WALTHAMSTOW stow Central Patch Adams 2,15pm. 5.15pm 8.15pm Shakespeare in Love 2.10pm, 5.15pm, 8.10pm You've Got M@il 1.55pm,

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WALTON-ON-THAMES THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) BR: Walton-on-Thames Hideous Kinky 3pm. 5.40pm The Thin Red Line 7.40pm You've Got M@i1 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm

WELL HALL CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Eltham Patch Adams 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm You've Got M@R 3.20pm. 5.50pm. 8.25pm

WILLESDEN BELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822) O Willesden Green 5 hakespeare in Love 6.30pm, 9pm Small Soldiers 4.30pm

WIMBLEDON ODEON (08705-050007) BR/O Wimbledon/South Wimbledon A Bug's Life 1.10pm Patch Adams 12.50pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm, 11.50pm Pleasantville 2.30pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm, 11.15pm Shakespeare in Love 2.55pm. 5.45pm, 8.25pm The Thin Red Line 12.50pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm, 10.55pm This Year's Love 11,20pm You've Got M@it 12.25pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm

WOOD GREEN NEW CURZON (0181-347 6664) O Tumpike Lane Aa Ab Laut Chalen
7.15pm Daag 10.45pm Kachche Dhaage 3.30pm

WOODFORD ABC (0181-989 3463) ← South Woodford Patch Adams 2.40pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm You've Got M@il 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm

MOOTMICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsenal Pleasantville 3pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm Urban Leg-end 3.45pm, 6pm

CINEMA REPERTORY

CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place, SW7 (0171-838 2144/2146) Trois

Places Pour le 26 (NC) 8,30pm ICA CINEMA The Mail, SW1 (0171-930 3647) Hamam: The Turkish Bath (NC) 5pm Identification of a Woman (18) 6.30pm 5aleam Cinema (NC) 7pm, 9pm Zabriskie Point (18) 9.15pm

THE LUX CINEMA Hoxton Square. N1. (0171-684 0201) Film and The Women's Movement: Shorts (NC) 7pm Leigh Bowery in Perfor-mance (NC) 9pm

NATIONAL FILM THEATRE South Bank, 5E1 (0171-928 3232) Orphee (PG) 2.30pm Yaaba (PG) 6.15pm Sammy and Rosle Get Laid: Hanl' Kurelshi (18) 6.30pm Only Angels Have Wings (NC) 7.30pm Home for the Holidays (15) 8.30pm The Ex-orcist (25th Anniversary Rere-lease) (18) 8.40pm

PHOENIX CINEMA High Road, N2 (0181-444 6789) La Vita è Bella (PGJ 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place. WC2 (0171-437 8181) The Mask of Zorro (PG) 1.15pm Pecker (18)

4pm Out of Sight (15) 6.30pm Psycho (15) 9pm The Rocky Horror Picture Show (15) 11.45pm RIVERSIDE STUDIOS CINEMA Crisp Road, W6 (0171-420 0100) Palookaville (15) 6.45pm + Buf-

falo 66 8.45p WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (0181-568 1176) La Classe de Neige (15) 1.30pm, 7.15pm Shakespeare in

Love (15) 5pm, 9pm BRIGHTON DUKE OF YORK'S CINEMA (01273-602503) The Apple (Slb) [PG] 2.15pm, 6.45pm Central 5ta-

tion (15] 4.15pm, 8.45pm Don't Look Now (18) 11.15pm BRISTOL CUBE CINEMA (0114-907 4191)

Buffalo 66 (15) 6.30pm, 8.45pm The Doom Generation (18) 8pm WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Central Station (15) 6.10pm, 8.20pm ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444)

Festen (15) 12pm, 7.15pm Central Station (15) 2.15pm, 9.20pm Detiverance (18) 5pm The Opposite of Sex (18) 11.30pm CARDIFF

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE 101 222-3996661 The Fountainhead (PG) 6.15pm Majorettes in Space: Five Gay Tales from France (18) 7.30pm La Vie Revée des Anges (18)

TPSWICH PSWICH FILM THEATRE 101473-215544) La Classe de Neige (15) 6pm. 8.15pm Pecker (18) 6.15pm.

PLYMOUTH ARTS CENTRE (01752-206114) Pecker (18) 6pm.

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

BRIGHTON ODEON (0870-207977); A Bug's Life 1U); Madeline 1U1; Patch Adams (12); Pleasantville (12); Shakespeare in Love (15): The Thin Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18): Velvet Goldmine (18); You've Got

BRISTOL BRISTOL CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (01275-831099): Affliction (15): A Bug's Life (U): Elizabeth (15); Enemy of the State (15); Jack Frost (PG): Lal Badshah (PG): Little Voice (15): Madeline (U): Patch Adams (12): Pleasantville [12]: Practical Magic (12); Saving Private Ryan (15): The Secret Garden (U): speare in Love (15); Stepmom (12): The Swan Princess (U): The hin Red Line (15); This Year's Love (18); Urban Legend (18); Very Bad Things (18); La Vita è Bella (PG) You've Got M@ff (PG)

CARDIFF ABC (0541-555178); Jack Frost (PG); Mulan (U); Patch Adams (12); santville (12); Shakespeare

MONICO (01222-693426): A Bug's Life (U): Jack Frost (PG(: Patch Adams (12); Shakespeare in

OKLAHOMA! Maureen Lipman SOUTHAMPTON stars in the National's acclaimed pro-VIRGIN (0541-555132): A Bug's duction of Rodgers and Hamn Life (U): Hu Tu Tu (NC): Jack Frost stein's cowboy versus farmhand musical Lyceum Wellington Street. WC2 (0870-606 3446) & Charing (PG); Madeline (U(; Patch Adams (12): Pleasantville (12): Shakespeare in Love (15); The Thin Red Line (15); You've Got M@il (PG) [4)(7(2.30pm, ends 26 Jun, £10-£35.

THEATRE WEST END

Ticket availability details are for today, times and prices for the week; running times include intervals. — Seats at all prices 9 — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Mat-nees — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

MAMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acclaimed drama. Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000) BR/O Waterioo. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £7.50-£30. 180 mins,

AMIMAL CRACKERS Revival of the chaotic Marx Brothers stage show. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045/cc 344 4444) BR/O Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7,45pm, [4](7] 3pm, £9.50-£30.

ART Tom Mannion, Danny Webb, and Gary Olsen in Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wyndham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) O Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm, [4(3pm, [7](1(5pm, £9.50-£27.50. 90 mins. BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lay-

ish family musical based on Dis-ney's cartoon version of the favourite farry-tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) ⊕ Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £18.50-£35, 150 mins. • BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Rus-

sell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama. Phoentx Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733] & Leic SoyTott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. (5/3pm, (7] 4pm, £11.50-£32,50. 165 mlns. BUPDY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly.
 Strand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930) 8800) → Covent Garder/Charing X. Tue-Thur 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats [14 pm, £10-£30, half price Friday

natinees, 160 mins, ▶ CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street. WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) → Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3((7) 3pm, £10.50-£35.165 mins.

O CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Nicola Davies star in this hit Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) & Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, (4][7] 3pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee), 130 mins,

• THE COLOUR OF JUSTICE Dramatisation of the Stephen Lawrence case, Victoria Palace Vic-toria 5treet, SW1 (0171-834 1317) BR/O Victoria, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 2pm, [7) 4pm, ends 13 Mar, £5-£15.50.

• THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) The Reduced Shakethrough 37 plays, Criterion Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747)

Picc Circ. Wed-Sat 8pm, [5] 3pm, (7] 5pm, [1] 4pm, £10-£25 120 mins.

O COPENHAGEN Drama from Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. Duchess Catherine Street, WCZ (0171-494 5075/cc 344 4444) Covent Garden, Mori-Sat 7,30cm (5([7] 2.30pm, £10-£30, 145 mins,

• DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN Mark Little stars in this witty and wise comedy about the sexes, Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) & Picc Circ. Mon-Thur 8pm, Fri-Sat 6pm & 8.45pm, £10-£25, concs available.

DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals in this oew stage adaptation featuring Jim Henson Puppets. London Apollo Hamth Queen Caroline Street, W6 (0171-416 6022) & Hammersmith. Tue-Sat 7.30pm. [4([7] 2.30pm. £12.50-£32.50, 150 mins.

GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film starring Darren Day. Cambridge Eartham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) ◆ Covent Garden. n-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-

Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4 £32,50. 150 mins. GROSS INDECENCY - THE
THREE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE
Moses Kaufman's play charts the
events that led to Wilde's incarceration

 The Coal With Midwal Penm Reading Gaol. With Michael Pennington and Leslie Phillips. Gleigud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494

(4)[7] 2.30pm, £14,50-£29.50. AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller. Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) & Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm. [7(5pm, £12-£29.50, 110 mins.

LIFT OFF Issues of race are e plored in Roy Williams' new piece. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat

9pm, ends 13 Mar, £10, concs £5. STRUGGLE AGAINST THE EU-NUCHS Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Halrevolutionary activist in David Hal-liwell's drama. Comedy Panton 5treet. SWI (0171-369 1731) © Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 8pm. [5](7(3pm. ends 13 Mar. £7-£27.50.

MACBETH Rufus Sewell and Sally Dexter portray thwarted ambition. Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040;cc 344 4444) ₱ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [7] 2.30pm, ends 5 Jun. €10.50-€28.50.

THE MEMORY OF WATER ALIstar in this touching comedy about three sisters returning home for their mother's funeral. Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR. 4 Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm. 151(7) 3pm. £8-£27.50.

OLES MISÉRABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterpiece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-434 0909) + Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5](7(2.30pm. E7 £35, 195 mins.

MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060) Covent Garder Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 3pm. £8.50-£35.

THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's evergreen whodunnit. St Martin's West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) + Leic 5q. Mon-Sat 8pm. [3(2.45pm. [7] 5pm. £10-£24.50. 135 mins.

BATH

O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical, Her Majesty's Hay-market, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 344 4444) OPEC OFF, Mon-Sat 7,45pm. [4][7] 3pm, £10-£35. 150 mins.

PRENT Musical inspired by La Bohème and set in modern day New York.
Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue,
WC2 (07000-211221) — Holtom/Tott
Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm.
612 50-623 50 160 mins. £12.50-£32.50, 160 mins

PRICHARD III Robert Lindsey stars as the historical villain. Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-936 8888) & Charing X/Embankment. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, 1717-730pm, 1717-730pm [7] 2.30pm, £10-£27.50.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE COTTESLOE: Guiding Star
Jonathan Harvey's play giving a tender account of the life of Hillsborough survivor. In rep. today 2.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 5 Apr

● LYTTLETON: The Forest Alan Ayocurn's new version of Ostrovsky's black social satire stars Frances de la Tour. In rep, tonight 7.30pm. ●LYTTLETON: NT2000: A Street-car Named Desire Tennessee

Williams' enduring drama. Tonight

 OLIVIER: Troilus and Cressida ohn Caird and Trevor Numn direct Shakespeare's reinvention of Homes: In rep, tonight 7pm. 150 mins, Olivier & Lyttelton: £8-£27. Cottesloe: £12-£18, NT2000; £4, concs £3. Day seats from 10am, South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000) BR/@ Waterloo.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY • THE PIT: Bad Weather Robert Holman's examination of the break-Holman's examination of the break-down in family relationships. In rep, tonight 7.15pm. The Pit: £11-£18.50. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) BR/& Barbican.

● YOUNG VIC: Talk of the City Stephen Poliahoff's drama explores me-Stephen Potanon's strama explores media control in the early days of TV and radio. In rep, tonight 7.15pm. RSC at the Young Vic. £14-£20. The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363) BRV® Waterloo.

SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hit 1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees. London Palladium Argyll Street. W1 (0171-494 5020) Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4)]7) 2.30pm, £10-£32.50. 135 mins.

) SHOCKHEADED PETER Junk opers, featuring the Tiger Lillies. Lyrk Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) & Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7(2.30pm, ends 10 Apr. E5-£18.

• SLAVA'S SNOWSHOW Slava Polounine returns to London with his mesmeric show. Piccadilly Denman Street. W1 (0171-369 1734) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5]]7(2.30pm. £10-£27.50.

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew

Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musi-

SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/O Victoria. Mon-Sat 7,45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£30, 150 mins. O AMERICAN IMPORTS; THREE DAYS OF RAIN Drama about the strange legacy left to two children by their father. Donmar Warehouse Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) & Covent Garden, Mon-Sat

8pm, ends 13 Mar, £8-£15, mats £8. TRUST Gary Mitchell's new play about a Beliast Mr Fixil Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) • Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7pm, ends 3 Apr.

£10, concs £5. VASSA Stage version of Maxim Gorky's tale of a matriarch and her downtrodden family. Albery St Mar-tin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) ◆ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7(3pm, ends 27 Mar, £5-£29.50.

THE WEIR Conor McPherson's drama examining ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of York's 5t Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Lering X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm,

[4][7] 3.30pm, £5-£25, 90 mins. D WEST SIDE STORY New production of Bernstein's classic musical Prince of Wales Coventry Street W1 (0171-839 5987) → Leic Sq/Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. (5][7(3pm, £18.50-£35. 160 mins.

O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's musical based on the film of the same name. Aldwych Mc2 (0171-416 6000) & Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5([7) 3pm, £10-£32.50, 120 mlns.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK SU san Hill's chilling ghost story. For-tune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 344 4444) Covent Gar den. Mon-Sat 8pm, (3] 3pm, (7(4pm, £8.50-£23.50. 110 mins.

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

ALMERDA THEATRE Speer Klaus Maria Brandauer in Esther Vilar's tantalising new drama. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Sat 3pm, ends 27 Mar. £9.50-£19.50. concs available. Almeida 5treet, N1 (0171-359

ARTS THEATRE Howard Crabtree's Whan Pigs Fly Gay musical poking fun at American culture. Tue-Fri 8pm, Sat 6pm & 8.30pm, 5un 6pm, ends 3 Apr. £20-£25 concs £15. Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-836 3334) + Leicester Square.

BUSH THEATRE Howie the Rook-ie A nightmarish visioo of contem-porary Dublin. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 13 Mar. £10, concs £7. Shepherd's Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388)

TRICYCLE THEATRE Paddy Irishman, Paddy Englishman and Pad-dy...? Premiere of Declan Croghan's new piece looking at the male of the species. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 4.1 Spm & 8.15pm, ends 20 Mar. £8-£13,50, concs available. Kilburn High Road, NW6 10171-328 1000) @ Kilburn.

THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

BASINGSTOKE HAYMARKET THEATRE Dracula Stage adaptation of Bram Stoker's chilling horror story, with dark themes of passion, poss ession and mortality. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. ends 13 Mar. £9.50-£15.50, concs available Wote Street (01256-465566)

THEATRE ROYAL Cleo, Camping, Emmanuelle and Dick Terry Johnson's play tooks at the Corry On actors and recreates Sid James, Kenneth Williams and Babs Windsor on stage. 12 & 13 Mar, 8pm. £9-£22.50 Sawclose (01225-448844)

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Call

CURRENTLY IN the studio working on new material, Jamiroquai have announced a summer date. Fronted by the big-hatted Jay Kay (right), the band's first mainstream success came with their debut album, Emergency on Planet Earth, which launched their unique blend of soul and scid jazz. This was followed by Return of the Space Cowboy, and last year's hit single, "Deeper Underground", taken from the film soundtrack, Godzilla. A new single and album will be released prior to a full UK tour. NEC, Birmingham (0121-780 4133) 12 Jun

Last Call

ALTHOUGH IT may not have received the rave reviews that greeted its initial opening in Stratford, it is still worth seeing one of the last West End performances of Bartholomew Fair. While director Laurence Boswell may have let the production coast along on momentum from its earlier warm reception, Ben Jonson's energetic comedy still manages to stand on its own two feet. Jacobean hedonism is given a 1990s kickstart as a multitude of wily oddhall characters come together to enjoy all kinds of sleazy, fun. Young Vic, London SE1 (0171-928 6363) to 25 Mar

BRISTOL **EXHIBITIONS** HIPPODROME THEATRE Phan-

tom of the Opera Tour of Andrew Lloyd Webber's huge hit musical. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 22 May, £10-£30, concs available, 5t Augustines Parade (0117-929 9444) CAMBRIDGE ARTS THEATRE vey's new play with the twin setting of Resven and Earth, Tue-Sat

7.45pm, mat Sat 2.30pm, ends 13 Mar, £5-£14.50 St Edwards sage (01223-503333) CHICHESTER CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE

Pirates of Penzance Paul Nicholas stars in this swash-buckling re-working of the Gilbert and Sullivan classic. 12 & 13 Mar, 7.30pm. 55.50-521, concs available. Oaklands £5.50-£21, concs availa Park (01243-781312) COLCHESTER MERCURY THEATRE The Ladykillers Stage adaptation of the 1955

7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £7.50-£15.50, concs available, Balkerne Gate (01206-573948) EXETER NORTHCOTT THEATRE Burled Alive Philip Osment's play about a

photographer who captures a horrific execution on film. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, cal Apollo Victoria Wilton Road. Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £7-£15. Stocker Road (01392-493493)

MILL STUDIO, YVONNE ARNAUD

THEATRE Jump to Cow Heaven De-piction of an East End villain on the run, Tonight 8pm, £8, concs £5, Mill-brook (01483-440000) YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Suddenly Last Summer Tennessee Williams' chilling tale of motherly love starring Sheila Gish. Mon-Thur

7.45pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, mais Thur & Sat 2.30pm, ends 13 Mar. £10-£12.50, concs available. Milibrook (01483-440000) HAYMARKET THEATRE A Passionate Woman Kay Melior's com-ic and poignant comedy about a Leeds mum. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, ends 20 Mar. £6.50-£14.50, concs avail-

able. Belgrave Gate (0116-253 9797)

NEWBURY WATERMILL THEATRE More Talking Heads Janet Brown, Patricia England and Sophie Lawrence bring Alan Bennett's supero monolo to life. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, mars Thur & 5at 2.30pm, ends 13 Mar. £6-£16.50. Bagnor (01635-46044)

PLYMOUTH DRUM THEATRE, THEATRE ROYAL Messing with Medea Powerful adaptation of Euripedes' classic play about personal and political betrayal. 12 & 13 Mar. 7.45pm. E9, concs £6. Royal Parade South (01752-267222)

POOLE ARTS CENTRE Barnum Roll up for Peter Duncan's performanc in this classic circus musical. Mor Sat 7.45nm mats Wed & Sa 2.30pm. ends 13 Mar. £12-£18.50. Kingland Road (01202-685222)

SALISBURY SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE The House of Bernarda Alba Federico Garcia Lorca's study of conflict be-tween a grieving mother and her daughters. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm. ends 20 Mar. £8-£15. concs available. Malthouse Lane concs available. (01722-320333)

SOUTHAMPTON NUFFIELD THEATRE The Gin Game Joss Ackland and Dorothy Tutin star in this sensitive drama which centres around a game of Gin Rummy. Mon Thur 7.30pm. Fri & Sat 8pm, man Thur 1,30pm, Sat 4pm, ends 13 Mar. £9.50-£13.50. University Road (01703-671771)

THE OTHER PLACE The Dispute Marivaux's quasi-scientific drama, di rected by Neil Bartlett. Mon-Sa 7.30pm, mat 5at 2.30pm, ends 20 Mar. £10-£19, concs available Southern Lane (01789-295623)

HALL FOR CORNWALL Six Dead Queens and an Inflatable Henr in this swashbuekling comedy. Tonight 8pm. £6-£7.50. concs £5. Back Quay [01872-262466]

WELLINGBOROUGH THE CASTLE Tess of the D'Urbevilles Musical adaptation of Thomas Hardy's classic novel about a tragic country girl. 12 & 13 Mar. 7.30pm. £8.50. concs £7.50. Castle Way (01933-270007)

WESTCLEFF-ON-SEA PALACE THEATRE CENTRE Twelfth Night Northern Broadsides' acce sible production, directed by Barrie Rutter Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Wed 2.30pm, Sat 4pm, ends 13 Mar. £6.50-£14.50, concs available. London Road (01702-342564)

WINDSOR THEATRE ROYAL Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical version of the Bible story. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Mon, Fri, Sat, 5pm, Tue-Thur, Sat 2pm, ends 13 Mar, £6-£25. Tharnes Street (01753-853888)

THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SO-CIETY Between Two Worlds: Pioneering British Women Photographers Including Madam Yevonde and Julia Margaret Cameron. On the Water: Shifa Ferran and Christian Ynaraja Artists from Barcelona gan vinaraja Artista from Barcestoa presenta a series of large photographs. Memory and Skin: Joy Gregory Interactive photographic installa-tion. Mon-Sun 9.30am-5.30pm, ends 21 Mar. £2.50. concs £1.75. The Octagon Galleries. Milso Street (01225-462841)

BRIGHTON BRIGHTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY Mosp Potter (1900-1981) Retrospective of the artist's paintings. Mon. Tue, Thur-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 28 Mar. free, Church Street (01273-290900)

RRISTOL ARNOLFINI Accelerator Work by an international group of artists, in-chiding Hilary Lloyd, Ako Sasao and Suzy Spence. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm. Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 28 Mar, free Narrow Quay (0117-929 9191)

CAMBRIDGE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM Picasso and Madsse Priots, drawings, and ceramics from the museum's col-lection. Ends 11 Apr. Recent Acquisitions of Contempo recent Acquisitions or Contemporary American Prints Early etchings of the East Coast, lithographs, woodcuts and screenprints. Ends 2 May. Rembrandt and the Passion The

museum's outstanding collection of prints. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm. Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 20 Jun, free. Trumpington Street (01223-332900) LONDON BARBICAN ART GALLERY Africa by Africa: A Photographic View Images from sub-Saharan Africa. Picasso and Photography: The Dark Mirror Works exploring the Spanish master's relationship with photography. Mon, Thur-Sat 10am-6.45pm, Tue 10am-5.45pm, Wed 10am-7.45pm, Sun 12noon-6.45pm, ends 29 Mar. £5, concs £3, from Mon-Fri £3 after 5pm. Silk Street FCZ (0171-638 4141) & Barbican.

EC2 (0171-638 4141) ⊕ Barbican. DESIGN MUSEUM Mini: 40 Ye of a Design Icon Min's designed by celebrities mark the 40th anniversary of the vehicle. Ends 9 May. Modern Britain 1927-1939 A study of the period after the Great War including the work of Francis Bacon, Paul Nash and Barbara Hepworth. Mon-Sun 11.30am-6pm, ends 18Jul. E5.25, concs £4 (to museum). Shad Thames SE1 (0171-378 6055)

NATIONAL GALLERY Portraits by Ingres Major exhibition of works by the 19th-century French artist. Mon & Tue, Thur-Sun 10am-6pm, Wed 10am-10pm, Ends 25 Apr. £6, concs £4, Wed 7pm-10pm £4. Orazio Gentileschi at the Court of Charles t Rare exhibition explorin the work of the 17th-century Italian artist, Mon & Tue, Thur-Sun 10am

6pm. Wed 10am-9pm, ends 23 May, free. Trafalgar Square WC2 (0171-747 2885) & Charing Cross. NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY Militais: Portraits Major retrospec-tive of portraits by the Pre-Raphaelite artist. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 6 Jun. £4, concs £3. St Martins Place WC2 (0171-306

0055) & Charing Cross. ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Monet in the 20th-Century Paintings made in the 26 years after 1900. Mon-Thur, Sun 9am-6pm, Fri 6 Sat 9am-10pm, ends 18 Apr. £9, concs £6. child (12-18) £3. child (8-11) £1.SO. Burlington House, Piccadilly W1 (0171-300 8000) & Green Park.

TATE GALLERY Art Now 17: Thornes Demand's Tunnel Looped tunnel travel film exploring urban life. Ends 25 Apr, free. Works on Paper and Paintings: Francis Bacon Previously unknown works. Ends 2 May, free.
Jackson Poliock Major retrospective
of the Abstract Expressionist's works.
Ends 6 Jun. £7.50, concs £5, family £19 (Firstcall 0870-842 2233 4

£1.60 booking fee).

£1.60 booking fee).

When Robots Rule - The One
Minute Airplane Factory: Chris
Burden Installation of Symp planes. Mon-5un 10am-5.50pm 13 Jun, free. Millbank SW1 (0171. 887 8000) @ Pimlico. NORWICH ARTS CENTRE India 50 - Working People: Sebastiao Salgado The acclaimed photogra-

pher portrays the harsh reality of In-dian life. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 11am-4pm. ends 8 Apr, free. Reeves Yard, 5t Benedict's 5treet (01603-660352) TATE GALLERY Displays 1998-9: Partnerships and Practice Paintings and ceramics from the second half of the century. Ends 11 Apr. Quoit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan Marble sculpture linking St Ives

with Montserrat. Mon-Sat 11am-

7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 11 Apr.

£3.50, concs £2. Porthimeor Beach (01736-796226) GLYNIN VIVIAN ART GALLERY Venice Through Canaletto's Eyes Paintings and drawings by the Venetian artist. Tue-Sun 10am-5pm, ends 14 Mar, free. Alexandra Road (01792-651738)

CLASSICAL

BRISTOL
ST GEORGE'S BRANDON HILL
Mikhall Kazakevich The pianist
plays Mussorgsky and Chopin.
Tonight 7.30pm. £6-£12. Brandon
Hill (0117-923 0359)

CARDIFF CARDIFF
ST DAVID'S HALL National Orchestra of Wales/Kramer Works by
Handel including the Water Music.
Tonight 7.30pm, £7-£20. The Hayes

LONDON ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL London Philharmonic/Serebrier Music in-spired by tango and flamenco. Tonight 7.30pm. £5-£16. ♥ Waterloo.

OPERA

LONDON LONDON COLISEUM Orpheus and Eurydice Gluck's opera in a revival of Martha Clarke's production. Tonight 8pm. £5-£55. St Martin's , WC2 (0171-632 8300) Leicester Square/Charing Cross.

DANCE

CANTERBURY MARLOWE THEATRE Phoenix Dance presents Five World Pre-mieres Innovative new work from Dwight Rhoden, Tonight 7,30pm. £7-£11.50. The Friars (01227-787787)

LONDON SADLER'S WELLS AT THE PEA-COCK THEATRE Paco Pena Flamenco presents La Musa Gitana World class flamenco. Tue-Sat 8pm, mat Sat. Sun 3pm, ends 20 Mar, £7.50-£35. Portugal Street, WC2 (0171-863 8222) ⊕ Holbom.

Loaded: Richard Alston Dance Company An exciting triple bill. 12 & 13 Mar. 7.45pm. £10-£13. South Bank Centre, 5E1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo. NEW VICTORIA THEATRE The Royal Ballet: Dance Blees New works by Mark Baldwin and William

OUEEN ELIZABETH HALL, Spring

E9.50-£19.50. Peacocks Arts & Entertainments Centre (01483-761144)

LITERATURE

Tuckett, 12 & 13 Mar. 7.30om

OXFORD GERMAINE GREER BOOK SIGN-ING Greer signs copies of her new book, The Whole Woman. Tonight 7pm. £1. Blackwell's Broad Street

COMEDY

BRIGHTON GETTING INTIMATE WITH RICHARD WHITELEY AT KOMEDIA The cult Countdown quizmaster presents ao evenio8 of 8entle humour. 12 & 13 Mar, 8pm. £10, concs £8. Gardner Street (01273-647100)

LONDON KOOL EDDY'S SECRET CABARET AT BAR AQUARIUS With Dan Antapolski, Tom Fynn, Karen Taylor, Brian Outwood and Jake Haggard. Tonight 8pm. £4. concs £3. Charing Cross Road, WC2 & Tot-tenham Court Road (0171-354 8995)

ADAM BLOOM AT NORWICH ARTS CENTRE The fast-paced stand-up. Tonight 8.30pm. £7. Reeves Yard, St. Benedict's Street (01603-660352) SOUTHAMPTON SONGLEURS SOUTHAMPTON Fea-

turing Mark Billingham, Jeff Mirza, Donna McPhail and Terry Alderton.

Tonight 8.15pm, £12. High Street (0845-6081818) **CLUBS**

BRIGHTON BOUTIQUE AT THE BEACH Bentley Rhythm Ace plus Mental Box and Wildstyle Bob Nimble. Foright 10pm-3am, £7.50. concs £6.50. Kings Road Arches (01273-722272)

THE GALLERY AT TURNMILLS Starring Seb Fontaine, Daniele Davoli and more. Tonight 10.30pm-7.30am. Clerkenwell Road. EC1 (0171-250 3409) BR/S Farringdon. £10, mems £8 before 12midnight.

INSPIRATION INFORMATION AT THE NOTTING HILL ARTS CLUB Patrick Forgs spins soul, jazz, drum/rbass and Latin-disco. Tonight 5pm-1am. £5. mems £3, free before 8pm. Notting Hill Gate, W11 (0171-460 4459) • Notting Hill Gate

SKINT AT THE WATERFRONT With

Indian Ropeman, Space Raiders, DJ Danielsan and DJ Sparky Light-

bourne. Tonight 10pm-2am. £5.50 in adv. King Street (01603-632717)

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EVENTS

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PORTSMOUTH
PLAY UP POMPEY Memorabi photographs and audio-visual plays celebrating the centenary of Portsmouth Football Club. Today 10am-5.30pm, ends 1 Apr. free, City Museum & Art Gallery, Museum Road (01705-827261)

BEER FESTIVAL A wide range of fine ales, including local brews, plus en-tertainment. Tonight 6pm-11pm, ends 13 Mar. £2, CAMRA mems free. Railway Club, Hillmorton Road, (01788-521761)

MUSIC POP

RRIDGEND WISHBONE ASH Classic rock perennials. Bridgend Recreation Centre Angel Street (01656-657491) Tonight 8pm, phone for prices.

LONDON
BILLY BRAGG AND THE BLOKES The Bard of Barking follows up his Woody Guthrie project with a UK tom: Blackheath Halls Lee Road (0181-463 0100) BR; Blackheath. Tonight 7.50pm. £12, concs £10.50.

STIFF LITTLE FINGERS Veteran UI-

ster punks tour a new album, Hope Street. The Forum Highgate Road, NW5 (0171-344 0044) Tube/BR: Kentish Town, Tonight 7pm, £12,50. SIDI BOU SAID, PEOPLE'S FRIEND, GARLIC Claire Lemon's in-fluential all-girl Indie trio headine. The Garage Highbury Corner N5 (0171-607 1818) BR/O; Highbury . & Islington, Tonight 8pm. £5.

GLENN TILBROOK Squeeze's song-School Tiber Constitution of Engineering Plays a mix of Engineering Suite, Chariton Athletic FC Floyd Road, SE7 (0181-333 4010). Tonight 7,30pm. £10.

CLIFF RICHARD Sir Cliff's 40th an-

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niversary season continues, Royal
Albert Hall Kensington Gore Seg.
(0171-589 8212) & High Stream
Kensington Tonight 6.45pm, £20-£35. THE BRIAN SETZER ORCHESTRA Post-modern swing and jive from for-mer Stray Cat Brian Setzer. Shep-

herd's Bush Empire Shepherd's Bush Green, W12 (0171-771 2000) GOO GOO DOLLS Ironic post-grunge posturing from Greg Dulli and gang. University of London Union Malet

Street WC1 (0171-664 2030) & Goodge Street, Tonight 8pm, free. MAIDSTONE ONE LADY OWNER High-octane indie-rock voungsters. Union Bar Pudding Lane (01622-753041) Tonight-

8pm, phone for prices. NORWICH UNDERWORLD Beaucoup Fish tour ... for the dance crossover crew that versity of East Anglia Earthern Road (01603-505401). Tonight 8pm, £12.

MUSIC JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

legendary American bassist's mod-

MINGUS MOVES Reedman Chris Balling

rn jazz orchestras. The Lift Oueers Road (O1273-730515) Tonight 8pm. EXETER TOWNSHIP EXPRESS South African. township rock'n roll, Eletter Phoenix. Bradninch Place, Gandy Street (01392-667080). Tonight 8pm.

LONDON pheric Hammond organist. 100 Cub Oxford Street W1 (0171-636 09331 Oxford Circus. Tonight Spm. £8.

PAT CRUMLY BAND Jazz with a strong blues feel 606 Club Lots RAY!
SW10 (0171-352 5953) & Fullippin Broadway. Tonight10pm, £5.45. WILLIE TEE The New Orleans soul-

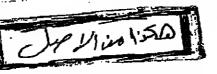
jazz and R&B merchant Jazz Cafe

Parkway NW1 (0171-916 6060(Town. Tonight 8.30pm. £12, adv £10 GEORGE MELLY AND JOHN CHILTON'S FEETWARMERS The veteran raconteur and Satchmo-styled singer: Pizza on the Park Knights: bridge SW1 (0171-235 5273) O Hyde Park Corner. 12 & 13 Maz

9.15pm & 11.15pm, £20, adv £18. MONTY ALEXANDER TRIO The Jamaican piano populist. Ronnie . Scott's Frith Street W1 (0171-439 . 9pm & 11.30pm, £15, mems £8. 0747) & Leicester Square. To

MODON THE ALBION BAND Acclaimed contemporary folk group. Arts Certire Devizes Road (01793-614837) Tonight 8pm. £8. concs £7.

MAIRE Nt CHATHASAIGH AND CHRIS NEWMAN Harp and guitar-folk duo. Tower Arts Centre Rom-sey Road (01962-867986) Tonight 8pm. £7.50, concs £6.50.



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RADIO 1 (97.6-99.8MHz FM)

RADIO 2

88-902MHz FM)

Simon Mayo. See Pick of the Day. 6.30 Zoe Ball. 12.00 Jo

Dave Pearca. 6.00 Pete Tong.

9.00 The Longest Radio Show in

- Radio 1 Rap Show: 2.00 Fabio

6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce.

12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed

Stewart. 5.05 Des Lynam. 7.00

Morley at the Musicals. 7.30 Friday Night Is Music Night. Live

Northampton. Ken Bruce intro-

duces the BBC Concert Orches-

Wordsworth, with guest artists Kim Criswell, Michael Winsor and

pianist Kathryn Scott, At 8.15, dur-

ing the interval, Richard Baker in-

troduces the music of George

Gershwin on disc, played by pi-

anist Jack Gibbons 9.15 John le

Carre's Single and Single. 9.30

Listen to the Band. 10.00 David

11.45 The People's Psalms.

12.00 Lynn Parsons. 4.00 -

6.00 Lata Sharma.

(90.2-92.4MHz FM)

9.00 Masterworks.

11.00 Sound Stories.

10-30 Artist of the Week.

12.00 Composer of the Week:

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Con-

cert. Paul Barritt (violin), Catherine

Edwards (piano). Elgar; Violin Sonata in E minor, Op 82. Walton;

Bagatelle, Op 3; Reve d'enfant, Op

10: Dance caprice, Op 15; Petite

4.45 Music Machine. (R) 5.30 In Tune. 7.30 Performance on 3. Live from

St David's Hall, Cardiff, an all-Han-

del concert introduced by Chris

Kraemer, Catherina Bott and

Toccata. Albert Sammons:

2.00 The BBC Orchestras.

4.00 Music Restored.

RADIO 3

6.00 On Air.

chanson (R)

bs. 10.30 Sheridan Morley.

from the Derngate Theatre.

tra, conducted by Barry

and rooverider. 4.00 - 7.00

the World. Ever! 11.00 Westwood

Whiley. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe, 4.00

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EVENTS

PORTSMOUTH PLAY UP POMPEY NO HON HILL planton zapts and authorate planton zapts of property and authorated planton the content for terminal Football Cub. V. (1998) 5 day m. ends 1 Aprilia Macamer M. Art. Gallery, the first of the College Macamer M. (1998) 277511 f thepin Honal Or-

gen kyristi ditar

RUGBY BEER FESTMAL A wale ranger three, the highing local breast he terrateurne of thought four-treast 15 May (7) CAMPA may The Haye Profession Clark, Hillmores E. L London Mark (i) President (64)

MUSIC

THRIDGENO West Bridgerd Recreating DES PRESENT there to pro. インド・ア・ムル

> THEY CRAGG AND THERE A rate of the bring of the control o de Souza, Conductor Nicholas TITTE TITTLE FINGERST Rachel Elliott (sopranos), Robin

1 17 T 30 T 2 ... Die Farem Him #E C. Philippin North Control of the WAFE T SOUTH BOOK SAID PEOPLE

SKY PREMIER

6.00 A Change of Heart (1997) (72229).

8.00 The Wedding (1997) (5303-9). 10.00 FR 11.4 Capool (1999) (8936), 12.00 Barning Secret (1983) (43657), 2.00 A Change of Heart (1997) (13367), 4.00 The Wedding Secret (1984), 6.00 Carpool (1996), 28831).

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(38676), 10,000 Daniels Peek (1997)

RI, MARY (1-31, 20980), 11.50 The Solitife Gril (1996)

Solicios, 1.50 Deed Ahead (1996) (513464),

Solicios, 1.50 Deed Ahead (1996) (513464),

Solicios, 1.50 Big Man (1990) (91572936),

Work Beleve Me (1947) (19612), 1.00 They

Work Beleve Me (1947) (19612), 1.00

Shepherd on the Rock (1994) (46744), 3.00

Shepherd on the Rock (1 (1997) (746170). **12.50** Shadow Conspiracy (1997) (833226). **2.35** The Stence of the Harns (1993) (6599879. **4.00** Michight (1993) (1988) (278787). **5.40 - 715** Damnetion Alley (1977) (26768348). SKY CINEMA

MARTINE 4.00 Buck Privates (1941) (7196015) 6.00 3.00 Horkytorik Man (1982) (2507909).

10.00 The Piench Connection (1971) (7813270). See Pick of the Day. 11.45 The French Connection # (1975) (4809386), See

(172400) 3:35 Hourd of the Basicovilles (1839) (29648058), 4.55 Close.

1839) (29648058), 4.5 DISCOVERY CHANNEL 100 Rex Hunts Fishing Adventures 1175831). 4.30 A River Somewhere

17/1015). 5.00 Time Travellers (9134021). 1.30 Terra X (1162367). 8.00 Wactie SOS 1152960) 6.30 Untarned Africa (3065367 130 The Quest (1172744) 8.00 Outbeck idventures (9439873), 6.30 Uncharted inca (4289170), 9.00 Test Pilots (8888763) 4.00 The Great Egyptiens (8858522).
1.00 Weapons of War (875473). 12.00 frochet and Allende - Anatomy of a Coup.
1469503). 1.00 Terra X (963503). 1.30 ime Travellers (3336787). 2.00 Close.

.00 Count Duckula (78831). 7.30 The

FRIDAY RADIO

PICK OF THE DAY

PROVIDED THAT he hasn't been David Constantine, about the hospitalised yet. Simon Mayo wreck of the gold-carrying (right) should be supplying some entertaining, fatigue-induced hysteria by now, on the second day of his bid to set the world record for the longest continuous radio broadcast, in aid of Comic momentous occurreoce that Relief (RI to 10pm).

The Friday Play (9pm R4), "Fisher of Men", is a Welsh-voiced drama, partly written in verse, by

Blaze (countertenor), Andrew Mur-

gatroyd (tenor), Matthew Harg-

Chorus of Wales. Water Music:

reaves (barritone), BBC National

Royal Charter off the Anglesey coast in 1859. Constantine has the tragedy following hard on the heels of a prayer by the vicar of an isolated community for a will drive his flock back to him. Needless to say, he can't cope with what he bargained for.



9.00 NEWS; Desert Island Discs. 9.45 Serial: The Pleasures of the Table. 10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

DOMONIC CAVENDISH

Suite No 2; Silete Venti; Concerto a due cori No 1 in B flat. 8.25 Handel In the Strand, Vivaldi on the Phone. Everywhere you turn you hear Baroque music, from telephone switchboards to reilway station platforms. Mark Russell takes a quizzical look at the history of Baroque music since the Baroque with the help of Brian Eno and Nicholas McGegan. 8.45 Concert, part 2. Dixit domi-

9.40 Postscript. Five commissioned poems blending words and sound. 5: 'Peter Reading: Marfen'. The 'laureate of grot' turns his attention to a small town in Texas. 10.00 Hear and Now. Verity Sharp presents 'The Opening of the Mouth', a major new work by Richard Barrett for voices, instruments and electronics. It explores themes of death and the underworld, derived from ancient Egyptlan rituals and the poetry of Paul Celan This studio realisation. made specially for tonight's broadcast, is performed by the Australian ensemble Elision, directed

11.30 Jazz Century 12.00 Composer of the Week; Tchaikovsky. (R) 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night. RADIO 4 (92.4-94.6MHz FM)

by Simon Hewett.

6.00 Today.

11.00 NEWS; Sharks and Seag-

ulls - A Summer with Sussex. (R) 11.30 Sunny Side Up. 12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Puzzle Panel. 2.00 NEWS; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: Family Affair. 3.00 NEWS; Changing Places. 3.30 Shorelines. 3.45 This Sceptred Isle.

4.00 NEWS; Bookclub. 4.30 The Message. 5.00 PM 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 The Sunday Format. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row, Francine Stock chairs the arts programme. 7.45 The Cry of the Bittern. An environmental drama by Tim Jack-

son. With lan Pepperell, Kelley Hunter and Rachel Atkins (20/30). 8.00 NEWS; Any Questions?. Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Thatcham, Berks, by panellists including Lord Jenkins; the Rt Hon John Redwood MP; and Glenys Kinnock MEP. 8.45 Letter from America, Alistair Cooke with another slice of Ameri-

9.00 NEWS; The Friday Play: Fisher of Men. By David Constantine. Told partly in verse, this is the story of the terrible wreck of the Royal Charter on the rocks of An-

glessy in 1859, and the devastating effect this has on the isolated community of Moelfre and its vicar the Rev Roose Hughes, With John Ogwen and loan Meredith, Director David Hunter. McLeod and Dawn McCormack, Written and directed by Jeremy Weller. See Pick of the Day.

10.00 Tha World Tonight. With Robin Lustig. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Ernest Hemingway Centenary - The Sun Also Rises John Sharian reads Hemingway's ecclaimed novel of the Lost Generation of the 20s

11.00 NEWS: Late Tackle, Eleanor Oldroyd and quests with a look at the week's sports agenda. 11.30 Sport in the Movies. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Golf

12.48 Shipping Forecast. 100 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 Leisure Update. 5.56 - 6.00 Weather. **BADIO 4 LW**

(198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 An Act of Worsnip. 12.00 - 12.04 News; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast 11.30 - 6.00 Parliament. RADIO 5 LIVE

(693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive.

7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Alan Green's Sportsraght. Alan Green and his studio guests discuss the week's sporting issues and look ahead to the weekend's fixtures. Plus updates and second-nalf commentary on Bristol Rovers vs Fulham in Division Two. 10.00 Late Night Live. Insight and comment on the day's big issues with Brian Hayes. Including Papertalk. 10.30 Sport. 11.00 News. 11.15 The Financial World Tonight 100 Up All Night.

5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM

(100.0-101.9MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Con-certo. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight, 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. Debbie Wiseman: Conversation for Orchestra. Richard Rodney Bennett: Partita, David Matthews: Burnham Wick (first London performance). Beethoven: Coriolan Overture; Symphony No 8 in F. Richard Strauss: Horn Concerto No 2 in E flat. David Pyatt (horn), Britten Sinfonia/Nicholas Cleobury 11.00 Alan Mann, 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Russ Williams, 100 Nick Abbot, 4.00 Harriet Scott. 7.00 Wheels of Steel 11.00 Janey Lee Grace. 2.00 - 6.00 Steve Power.

WORLD SERVICE RADIO (198kHz LW) 1.00 The World Today. 1.30 Maridian (Books). 2.00 Tha World Today. 2.30 People and Politics.

3.00 The World Today. 3.20 Sports Roundup, 3-30 World Business Report, 3.45 Insight. 4.00 The World Today, 4.30 Weskend, 5.00 The World Today. 5.30 - 6.00 My Century. TALK RADIO

6.00 David Banks and Nick Ferran. 9.00 Scott Chishokn and Sally James. 12.00 Motoring. 1.00 Anna Raeburn, 3.00 OK to Talk, 5.00 The SportZone, 8.00 Nicky Home's Access All Areas, 10.00 Dave Berrett. 2.00 - 6.00 Mike Dickin,

The Brittas Empire (2555541), 9,00 The

Thin Blue Une (1258454), 9.40 Harry En-

field and Chums (6047893). 10,200 Ruby Wex Meets... Bill Cosby and Fran Dresche

(2028541), 11.00 The Bill (3099034), 11.30

Bill (2437270). 12.00 Dr Who Omribus (3068394). 1.45 Blake's Seven (70677226).

6.00 Tiny and Crew (79617560), 6.20 10

plus 2 (48058893), 6.40 Greedysaurus and the Gang (98627473), 6.45 Philbert the

598614909), 7.00 Practical Parenting

(1568367). 7.30 Callou (6088831). 7.35

Bug Alert (7986783), 7.55 Practical Parent

ing (9081725). 8.00 Barney and Friends

(909)102), 8,25 Babaloos (1480541), 8,30

Tiny Tales (3265522), 8.35 Tiny and Crew

(8639589), 9.00 Special Babies (8316928).

9.30 The Roseanne Show - Highlights (7286812) 10.00 The Jerry Springer Show

(9524676), 10.50 Meany Povich (9923454).

11.40 The Heat is On (23380676), 12.10

Through the Keyhole (21625473), 12.40 Rescue 911 (94650706), 1.10 Beyond Belle

Fact or Fiction (39911812). 1.40 Maury Povich (1120917). 2.30 Special Babies

9376541). 3.00 Living Room (6495299).

Through the Keyhols (59190251), 5:10 The

Heat is On (15899183), 5.40 Reach, Steach

Cook (6277183). 6:45 The Jerry Springer Show (1938589), 7.05 Rescue 911

(4789015). 7.35 Animal Rescue (4067102).

3.50 Michael Cole (4785015), 4.40

(496560). 8.50 Practical Parenting

(3493676). 7,05 Professor Bubble

3.00 - 2.00 Shopping (8196684).

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

<u>CHESS</u> JON SPEELMAN

GARY KASPAROV completed a truly celestial performance at Linares on Wednesday with a long, hard grind against Veselin Topalov's King's Indian Defence in which he eventnally won a piece but at the cost of

The inevitable draw brought him to 10.5-14, way ahead of Kramnik and Anand - who caught up by beating Michael Adams in the last round -8. Leko 6.5. Ivanchuk and Topalov 6. and Adams and Svidler 5.5.

running out of pawns.

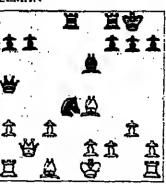
Hard on the heels of his superb performance at Wijk aan Zee in January, this further triumph reemphasises Kasparov's position as the world's absolute number one. Kramnik and Anand will have been pleased to fight their way so far clear of the rest but are currently far in his wake - even though Kramnik in individual games against the man is the one player who displays absolutely no inferiority complex.

Of the others. Leko, bottom rated at a mere 2,694, will presumably be fairly pleased. The others must be less happy, particularly poor Michael Adams who led after four rounds but seemed to suffer severe aftershocks after experiencing earthquake Kasparov in round five.

The ever temperamental Vassily Ivanchuk played abysmally in the first half but recovered well in the second, losing to Kasparov but winning the vintage "Ivanchuk game" below, in the penultimate round,

The position after 6 Nc3 is well known, but with a black knight on f6 rather than c6. Instead this was very unusual and Topalov immedietely had to solve difficult problems at the board. 8 Bd2 may be an improvement 11 Qb3 dxc4

since if 8 ... dxc4 9 a3 Bxc3 10 Nd6+!



though 8 ...d4 9 Net Bxd2+ 10 Qxd2 Qxd2+ 11 Nxd2 Ke7 looks quite reasonable for Black

9 Nxc3 d4 10 b4 Nxb4 11 axb4 Qxa1 12 Nh5 was conceivable. though this has been played at least once before and no doubt Ivanchuk was more than ready. With 14 ...e4!, tvanehuk smashed the position open before White could castle. Perhaps Topalov should have tried 15 Bxe4, but it is repulsive.

In the diagram the beautifully thematic 18 ... Nxe2!! ripped White apart. At the end White is mated after 26 fxe4 Bg4+ 27 Kf2 Qxh2 + 28 Kf1 (or 28 Ke3 Qg3 male) 28 Bhil-

White: Veselip Topalov Black: Vassily Ivanehuk

English Openiog 1 Nf3 c5 14 Qu3 e4! 2 c4 Nc6 15 Nxc4 Nxc4 3 d4 exd4 t6 Bac4 Rad8 4 Nxd4 e6 17 Oct Nd4 5 £3 Bbi+ 18 Ob2 (see 6 Ne3 Oa5 diagram: Nxc2!! 7 Ndb5 d5 19 Kxe2 Rfe8 8 a3?! Bxc3+ 20 Qb4 Qh5+ 9 bxc3 Nf6 21 B B 10 Bg2 0-0 22 g4 Qh3 23 exf5 Bxf5

24 Oc4+ Kh8

25 Ret Rxe4+0-1

Kf8 11 Bxc3 looks rather good 13 Nd6 Be6

BRIDGE

12 Qxc4 e5

SOUTH'S WELL-INTENTIONED hidding strategy on this deal seemed to have worked out badly when North took charge and landed the partnership in a distinctly poor slam. Graced with a favourable lead, however, declarer found all of the missing high cards in East's hand and this led him to an unusual end position. North opened with a conven-

tional Two Clubs and South decided to respond Two Hearts. By giving a positive in this suit, rather than jump to Three Diamonds or lose time and space by choosing a negative Two Diamonds, he hoped to show both of his suits at a coovenient level. The drawbacks of became apparent when North launched into a Blackwood 4 notrumps and, hearing of no aces opposite, still continued to Six Hearts. Although quietly bopeful, East passed and West led 010 against the slam.

Declarer's main hope clearly lay in finding the queen of hearts doubleton. Then, if that did not work, there was still the chance of establishing a long spade for a club discard. He won the lead in hand, preserving A for a later entry, and tried the two top trumps without success. Then he cashed the

North 4AK1053 VAK6 0 A 2 **♣**K Q 10 West East +17 **◆**Q984 **♥74** QQ 109 01096 0543 **4**397653 +A84 South **◆**6.2 V18532 OKQJ87 42

Game all; dealer North

showing such a bad suit first ace and king of spades and ruffed a spade to find the suit 4-2. Next came a diamood to the ace and another spade ruff. Now the only way of reaching the table was by ruffing a diamond. After this, the last spade was led for the cluh discard. Still not out of the wood, declarer

followed with # K from the table, East covered with his ace and South ruffed. Now it was easy although East held the only trump still out, a winning diamond allowed \$10 to be discarded. East could ruff hut now had to concede trick 13 to dummy's # Q.

SATELLITE AND CABLE

PICK OF THE DAY

(10pm Sky Cinema), the creation which won Gene Hackman a Best Actor Oscar in 1971. Done up in his trademark porkpie hat and raincoat, he shines in William Friedkin'e vérité-style film about Doyle's stubborn truelife efforts to smash a drugs ring, ably assisted by his partner, Roy Scheider (right). Watch for the stunning - and often replicated -

THERE HAVE been few finer car-chase sequence in which screen cops than Popeye Doyle Doyle pursues an overhead in The French Connection Subway train. This is followed by The French Connection II (11.45pm), a rare example of an equally impressive sequel. In this tough thriller, directed by John Frankenheimer, Dovie pursues a Mr Big (Fernando Rey) to Marseilles. Here, in a memorable scene, he is forced to undergo cold turkey after being hooked on drugs by the villains. JAMES RAMPTON



Chris Evene Breakfast Show (31102) 8.30 Hollywood Squares (58928), 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (51725), 10.00 The Oprah Windrey Show \$3522), 11.00 Guilty! (73386), **12.00** Jenny Jones (99763), **1.00** Mad about You (77102), **1.30** Jeopardy (31812). 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (31812). 3.00 Janny Jones (71893). 4.00 Guilty! (90928), 5.00 Star Trek: Voyager (2657), 6.00 America's Dumbest Criminals (4299). 6.30 Friends (8251). 7.00 The Stripsons (1096). 7.30 The Simpsons (7763). 6.00 Rest the Crusher (91902), 9.00 Really Caught in the Act (21386). 10.00 Cops (24473), 11.00 Friends (91657), 11.30 Star Trek: Voyager (23164), 12.30 The Commish (43042), 1.30 - 7.00 Long Play (5405959).

SKY SPORTS 1 6.30 Futures in Sport (55893): Z.00 Sky Sports Centre (4856305): Z15 World Wiestling Federation Superstars (576541). 8.15 You're on Sky Sports (5984134): 9.00 Racing News (34947): 9.30 Aerobics - Oz Style (38561): 10.00 Booting - Big Fight Countdown (89473), 10,30 Spanish Foot-ball (10812), 12,00 Aerobics - Oz Style (14183), **12.30** Bosing - Big Fight Count-down (49367), **1.00** European Tour Golf (8168560), 5.00 Futbol Mundiel (6560). 5.20 What a Weekend (9386), 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (57386), 7.00 Boxing - Big Sports Centre (5/389), 7.00 Goong - Big Hight Countidown (3096), 7.30 European Tour Golf (7/6562), 10.00 Sky Sports Cen-tre (59183), 11.00 Boxing - Big Fight Count-down (33657), 11.30 Hold the Beck Page (72454), 12.30 Sky Sports Centre (96351).

1.30 World Wrestling Federation Raw (67597). 3.30 Sky Sports Centre (70042). 4.30 Boxing - Big Fight Countdown (24955). 5.90 - 6.90 Mex Power (92481). SKY SPORTS 2

7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (4214003), 7,30 Sky Sports Centre (2029265), 7.45 Flacing News (8492560), 8.15 What a Weekend (5378928), 8.45 Sky Sports Centre (9370473), 9.00 Tight Lines (2415386), 10.00 Ford Golf USA ((249744), 12.00 The Rugby Club (1242631), 1.00 Ice Hockey (2844560), 3.30 Boxing - Big Fight Countdown (5863639). 4.00 Trans World Sport (3211251). 5.00 The Rugby Club (5109357). 6.00 Moto-plus (3968003), 6.30 Extreme Salling (5968283), 7.00 Gillette World Sport Special (5100096). 7.30 International Foot-ball England U15 v Republic of Ireland U15 (2725386), 9.30 Boxing - Big Fight Count-down (1243560), 10.00 Ford Golf USA (3231015), 12.00 Cycling (2399394), 12.30 International Football England U15 vs Re-public of Ireland U15 (\$100987). 2.30 Sky Sports Centre (7010481). 3.30 Golf USA (9127348), 6.30 - 6.00 Saling (2390023).

SKY SPORTS 3 11.30 Futures in Sport (92454270), 12.00 Transworld Sport (19649638), 1.00 Fish TV: Tight Lines (19658386). 2.00 Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (23802473). 3.30 Survival of the Fittest (14139560). 4.00 Footbell League Review (\$2444893). 5.00 Gillette World Sport Special (27208102), 5.30 Festrax (14136831). 6.00 Cycling (14135744), 6.30 Inside the PGA Tour (14126096). 7.00 Max Power (33956909), **6.00** Worldwide Rugby (33969473), 10.00 World Wrestling Federation Rew (92454657), 12,00 Close FUROSPORT

7.30 US PGA Golf Tour (66812), 8.30 Ski Jumping World Cup (43893), 10.00 Biethlon World Cup (52102). 11.30 Recing Line (37473). 12.00 Snowboarding (47021). 12.30 Slathion World Cup (98873), 2.00 Tennis ATP Tour (75763), 4.00 Sking (27096). 5.00 Alpine Sking Women's Night Slatom (4873), 6.00 Termis ATP Tour (60299). 6.00 Alpine Skiing Women's Night Sletom (631386), 8.45 Termis (7615015). 10.00 Terris ATP Tour (98229). 11.30 Equestrianism (67522). 12.30 Close. **THE GOLD**

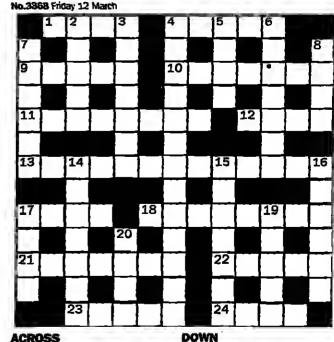
7.00 Crossroads (8738183), 7.30 Neighbours (6802251), 7.55 EastEnders (3230580), 8.30 The Bill (3465299), 9.00 The Bill (3449251). 9.30 When the Boat Comes in (5262454). 10.20 Finada (3478763). 11.00 Delles (4292631). 11.55 Neighbours (75482184). 12.25 EastEnders (2134218), **1.00** Juliet Bravo (1706299), **2.00** Delies (7025522), **2.55** The Bill (1037893). 3.25 The Bill (1858742). 3.55 Ea (3644367), 4.30 Finoda (1173473), 5.00 Al Dynesty (17:9763), 7.00 The Comedy Alternative: Ever Decreasing Circles (7956270). 7.40 The Comedy Alternative: Dedis Army (4324898). 8.20 The Cornedy Alternative:

9.00 LA Law (2521763), 9.00 Film: A Kidnapping in the Family (1996) (2591522). 11.00 Sex Files II (7550270). 12.0 Close. 9.00 WCW Nitro on TNT (23438522). 11.35 WCW Thunder (99337096), 145 The Fearless Vampire Killers (1967)

368). 3.45 The Karate Killers (1967)

(13821400). **5.00** Close. PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL 7.00 Jenny (1638), 7.30 Grace Under Fire (7305), 8.00 Ellen (9706), 8.30 Spin City (9593), 9,00 Drop the Dead Donkey (29454), 9,30 Whose Line is it Arryway? (50473). 10.00 Film: Jabberwocky (1977) (43034). 12.00 Late Night with David Letterman (57110). 1.00 Taxl (28972), 1.30 Frontine (48023), 2.00 Dr Katz (30619), 2.30 Tibs and Fibs (46226), 3.00 Nightstand (21868), 3.30 Abbott & Costello (33706). 4.00 Close.

CONCISE CROSSWORD



Cost of journey (4)

Antelope (5) Courageous (5) 10 Bloom (7) 11 Commonplace (8) 12 Flat-bottomed boat (4) 13 Rich fish stew (13) 17 Baby carriage (4)

18 Gather together (8) 21 Inspect (7) 22 Oily fruit (5) 23 Bring to bear (5) 24 Level (4)

Grant (5) Everlasting (7) Discomfiture (13) Acknowledge (4) Talk about (7) Take up (6) Leave out (4) Ignorant (7) Flower (7)

Small hole (6) 17 Quarry (4) 19 Billiard table covering (5) 20 Monetary punishment (4)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Chanter, 5 Clear (Chanticker), 8 Erase, 9 Mansion, 10 Success, 11 E-mail, 12 Beyond, 14 Street, 17 Actor, 19 Chancel, 22 Lumbage, 23 Thrin, 34 Extra. 25 Lucated, DOWN: 1 Chess, 2 Anarchy, 3 Thrine, 4 Remiss, 5 Concept, 6 Erica, 7 Ringler, 12 Braille, 13 Navana, 15 Excerpt, 16 School, 18 Tempt, 20 Atta; 21 Lined.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH SC1 N IRELAND ewstre 6.30 (299).

BC1 SCOTLAND s SSC1 London except: 12.30

Juch is Faith (Mouse and Mole)

15969801, 12.36 Orain agus Rannan

Song and Rhyme) (21595291), 12.40

adraig Post (Postman Pat) (82431657),

200 News (947, 6.30 Reporting Scotnic Weether (\$24909), 6.35 Budget

sponse by SNP (\$43270). s BBC1 Landon except: 12.30

BC1 WALES
S BBC1 Lendon except: 6.30
lates Today (299)

Itales Today (200).

NGLIA

B CLARTton encept: 12.20 Angle.

A and Weather (7365522, 12.55

relitand Street (908387), 1.30 Home of Away (35776034), 1.55 The Jerry Jringer Show (858598), 3.30 ITN News asclines (489125), 3.25 Angle News of Weather (480022), 8.30 Off the setten Track (102), 6.00 Angle News 65), 11.20 Angle News and Weather (5251), 11.30 Wonderful You 56893, 1.30 Leahy in Concert (206955). Http://doi.org/10.1001/1

2.05 CubaVision (2047868), 2.50 The Haunted Fishtank (8788023), 3.20 Short Story Cinema (12216226), 3.50 Trisha (9242752), 4.50 ITV Nightscrean (43067329), 5.00 Coronation St (86684).

CENTRAL
As Carffon except: 12.20 Central
News and Weather (7395522), 12.55
Home and Away (4844678), 2.40 Wish
You Ware Here...? (5655218), 5.30 Surprise Gardeners (102), 5.00 Central
News at Six (265), 11.20 Central News
and Weather (751251), 11.30 Late Tackle
(54554), 3.55 Jobfinder (5577313), 3.20
Asian Five (34427761) CENTRAL Asian Eye (3442706).

As Cartton excepts 10.30 This Momning (44669812). 12.45 HTV Nowe (4157454). 12.55 Wish You Wore Hera...? (9063367). 1.30 Home and Away (35776084). 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (9585196). 3.10 ITN News Headines (4891251). 3.45 HTV News (4680522). 3.30 Quiz Chellenge (102). 6.00 HTV News (265). 11.20 HTV News (751251). 11.30 Wonderful You 156868). 12.30 ITV at the Reading Festival (92349). 1.30 Leathy in Concert (2961955). 2.05 ChubeVision (2047868). 2.50 The Haunted Fishtenk (9768023). 3.20 Short HTV WALES

Story Cinema (12218226), 3.50 Trisha (5242752), 4.50 (TV Nightscreen (43057329), 5.00 Coronation St (86684).

aways (9063367). 5.30 Sportsweek (102). MERIDIAN As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morning (44669812) 12.15 Meridian

News Headlines (4891251). 3.15 Meridian News and Weather (4890522). 5.00 Home and Away (4928). 5.26 The List-ings (7012788). 5.30 Streetwise (102). 6.00 Meridian Tonight (265). 11.30 Wonderful You (56883). 12.30 ITV at the Reading Festival (92348). 1.30 Leatry in Concert (2951955). 2.05 ClubaVision (2047868): 2.50 The Haunt-ed Fishtank (8768023). 3.20 Short Story Chema (12218226). 3.50 Trisha (9242752). 4.50 ITV Nightscreen (9242752), 4,50 ITV Nightscreen

As HTV Wales except: 12.55 Gal-

Morning (44669812). 12.15 Meridian News and Westher (4157454). 12.55 Shortland Street (9063367). 1.30 Home and Away (35778034). 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (9585198). 3.10 (TN News Headines (4891251). 3.15 Meridian News and Westher (4891822). 3.15 Meridian

WESTCOUNTRY

Morning (44669812), 12.15 Westcountry News (4157454), 12.27 Smail Talk, Big Talk (7303541), 12.55 Westcountry Lunchtime Live (4644676), 3.10 TIN News Headines (4891251), 3.15 Westcountry News (4890522), 5.30 Westcountry News (4890522), 5.30 Westcountry News (751261), 11.30 Film: Str Crazy (30218), 1.30 Learly in Concert (2959555), 2.05 ChibeVision (2047661), 2.50 The Heurded Fishtank (6768023), 3.20 Short Story Cirema (12216226). Morning (44669812), 12.15 Westcountry

3.20 Short Story Criema (122/6225). 3.20 Trisha (9242752). 4.50 ITV Nightscreen (43067329). 5.00 Coronation Street (86684). YORKSHIRE YORKSHIRE
As Cartton except: 10.30 This
Morning (44669812): 12.15 Calendar
News and Weather (4157454): 12.30
News; Weather (4636857): 12.55 Home
and Away (4644878): 2.10 Emmerdale
(56555218): 5.30 Tonight (102): 5.00
Calendar (265): 11.20 Calendar News
and Weather (751251): 11.30 Wonderful

TYNE TEES
As Yorkshire except: 12.15 North
East Naws and Weather (4157454), 5.30

S4C
As Channel 4 except: 6.00
Seame Street (8837/64): 9.00 YsgoEnr/Schools (28343/64): 12.00 Home
Improvement (971154): 12.30 Sesame
Street (263463/6): 1.00 Planed Plant
(57363980): 1.30 Travelog Traks
(54863251): 1.40 Film: Angels One
Five* (78755473): 4.30 Dishes
87228781: 5.00 Planed Plant FIVE: (78/504/3), 4-30 Display (67/28/183), 5-30 Planed Plant (90/21890e), 5-30 Countdown (67/24/2783), 6-30 Henryddion (93/564/096), 6-30 Henry (860/24/299 7/09 Robol v Cum (80/29/278), 7/

North East Tonight (55386). 11.20 North East News (751251).

(83564096). 6.40 Heno (88054299). 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (90229473). 7.20 Newyddion (87225812). 8.00 Cefn Gwlad (90205853). 6.30 Y Chvb Rygbi (90224829). 8.00 Pawb at Farn (37478034). 10.00 Brockside (72781386). 10.35 Frasier (85886589). 11.05 So Graham Norton (83873473). 11.45 Celebrity Death Match (3076725). Celebrity Dean March (30076724). 12.35 TFI Friday (99866058). 1.3.5 4 Leter: The Ru Paul Show (39786459). 2.40 4 Later: Late Toon - Planat Apathy (95553936). 2.15 The Mod Squad (90608226). 3.15 4 Later: Vida (51851665). 3.45 Film: The Face of Pu Marichu (31779503). 5.25 Close.

Shuttle flights of the stapping of

ROBERT HANKS TELEVISION REVIEW

THERE IS NO such thing as pure science: sciaoce is always tainted by money.
Last night's Horizon (BBC2) was ostensibly about American estlempts to build a manned space etation: but, as the budget rocketed skywards and the space station stayed resolutely earthbound, it turned into a story of cash and politics. The project began in 1984 when, piqued by Soviet succeases in space, President Reagan announced that he was asking Naso to put a space etation into orbit within 10 years. Budget meetings were reld, to which Nasa brought ulong models of the station and aunchers for the President to lay will; in approved their roposed budget of \$8tm into this trick - If, say, the integen chiefs of etaff und roll up to the Ovel Control of the project of the project of the integen chiefs of etaff und roll up to the Ovel Control of the project of the project of the integen chiefs of etaff und roll up to the Ovel Control of the project of t

unid roll up to the Oval Office the couple of buckets plastic soldlers and a mote-controlled tank, in hope of getting o decent if the ground.)

But Nasa swithy realised it they had shot themselves ha foot: \$180n wasn't going to nearly enough. Apart from thing else, it turned out that ace etation of any size id have a sufficiently large with field to disrupt that rogravity experiments were the main practical iffeation for building lifeation for building hing in the first place.

992, with the deadline for launch two years away, the nal \$50s had all gone on opped designs: the

And as the costs kept
growing – you began to see
where the phrase "astronomically expensive" came from –
the reasons for building the
thing kept shrinking. The
main point of microgravity
experiments was to grow
larger, purer protein crystals
than could be produced on
Earth. Thase would be far
easier to analyse, and hence
would help in the design of
new drugs. But as the project
dragged on, crystal-growing
techniques improved to the
point where microgravity
began to look irrelevant.
Another instiffnation was rikings are visible and mprehensible. A couple of seks ago, announcing the ries' website, Dibnah said: 't modern technology anderful?' But you could fall

3

treason for it.
I reason for it.
bere wasn't a moral to this,
a slowly burgeoning sense
conder at the monstrous
ravagance of it all, t suppose
could take it as a fable

Tales of Thois (BBC2) is bout the very simplest kinds of echnology: the saw, the needla and, this week, actssors. Talking about his relationship with its tools was Monty Park, e parber whose celebrity clients have included John Major and Douglas Pairbanks Jur; this ecemed to be enough glamour o estisfy Mr Park. The last f a long line of barbers, Mrarks described himself as the Last of the Mohlcans.

BBC

BBC2

9.90 Kilroy (S) (T) (2651831), 9.45 The Variases S (S) (T) (719893), 10.55 News: Regional News: We (T) (300867), 11.00 Charigs That (S) (3110034), 11.00 Charigs That (S) (2134), 12.30 Wipsout (S) (484589), 12.00 Charigs The Westher Show (S) (T) (53785589), 1.00 News: Westher (T) (35102), 1.30 Regional News and West (59807184), 1.40 Neighboure (S) (T) (35747522), 2.05 Ironelds (R) (5968367), 2.55 Through the Keyhole (R) (S) (T) (3213742).

Children's BBC: Playdaya (R) (S) (6504164).
3.45 Spidar (R) (S) (5168763). 3.50 Smart on the Road (S) (T) (9880676). 4.05 Rad Nosa Day 1999 – tha Racord Breaker (S) (4199305).

Neighbours. Libby learne tha truth about Blanca, and Karl considers working overseas (S) (T) (139270).

6.00 Newel Weather (T) (947).

7.00

OO Comic Relief: Dr Who. Rowan Alkineon stars as the Doctor, with Jonathan Pryos, Julis Sewalha and the Datieke 9.40 Paul Bradley – Rwanda. Formar EastEnders star in Africa 9.20 Harry Enfield and Spacial Chuma 8.30 French and Saunders 9.40 Boyzone. The Irish popstars eing this year's Conto Relief eingle 9.50 At Work in the UK 5.55 Peter Snow Goas Tonto. The total so lar (Videoplus Code for 7-9pm 23367).

Weather (T) (50%).

9.30 Comio Relief: 9.35 Dr Who. More trom Rowan Atkinson's timelord 9.45 Record-Breeking Groadcast. Simon Mayo's 37 hours on air 9.46 The Victoria Wood Spacial – Wetty Hairthrop investigates 9.95 Rwanda Odyssey (Vidaopius coda for 9.30-1130pm 12473). OG Comic Relieft Jack Dee, Jonathan Rosa and Julian Clary introduos: Man Behaving 6adly. A spacially writtan eketch set in 1988 10.15 The Fast Show 10.29 Dawn French – Child Prostitution 10.30 Eivis Costalio 10.35 The Son of the Fast Show Live 10.40 The Most Neked People on TV Ever 10.46 Davins McCall and Lenny Hanry (Videopius code for 930-11.80pm 12473). 10.30 Newsnight. With Kiraty Wark (T) (848096).

Severel Carelul Owners. A Messarschmitt KR200 bubble car and its former owners (R) (S) (911783).

11.05 Graham Norton 11.40 Have t Got Buzzcocke All Over. With Angus Deayton and Nick Hancock 11.20 Where Are They Now? 11.25 Tentrums and Tlaras – the Out-Take, 6ackstage with Elion John 11.30 TFI/Comic Railef. Chris Evans's guesta Includa Paul Gascotigna and Mick Hucknall. 12.30 Bleat from the Past with Ben Elton 12.10 INIOINE Jules et Jim (François Truffaut 1981 Fr).
Truffaut's mesterpiece set around the time of the First World War. Sea Film of the Day, below (597232). 1.50 Leter with Jools Holland. Gueste are Simply Red, Emashing Pumpkins, Tricky, PJ Harvey, Sizzia and Leon Ruesell (Than Wealharviaw) (R) (2022771). To 3am. 11.15 Births, Merrieges and Deeths (R) (S) (T) (479201).

1.00 **LILLY** Carry On Loving (Gerald Thomas 1970 UK).
Sid James and Hattle Jacques start up a marriage bureau in this entry to a series thei was already peet its best (Videophus 830pm-230am 3383676). To 230am

FUNDRAISER OF THE DAY

fundraising, with the cream of British comedy talent lending (one assumes) their services for free. Highlights include the incongruous sight of Johnny Depp in an episode of The Vicar of Dibley, Alan Partridge (Steve Coogan) helping Radio Norwich's Red Nose Day efforts (this is on BBC2, by the way) and Rowan Atkinson playing Dr Who. That might be a canny move from the ever carny Atkinson, and I wouldn't be surprised if he were invited to step full-time into the role. Chris Evans also brings a special edition of TFI Friday to BBC1, where his unsurprising guests include muckers Paul Gascoigne and Mick Hueknoll.

TRUST ME, I'M A DOCTOR (Spm 66C2, 19th) It's fancy a break from all the hillerity over on BBC1, into bunch of maggots feasting on e women's leg ulcer. It



MEDICAL SHOW OF THE D

you agine a t seems t seems for the ce of ota clean then, there's, which, which,

FILM OF THE DAY

attention-seeker. Cetherine (played by Jeanne Moreau, right), Is probably the sort of woman a chap ought to avoid in real life rat ooc point site jumps into the River Seine hecause Jules and Jim's discussion of Strindherg does not include her? – but she makes a terrific cotalyst for François Truffaut's nouvelle rugue classic. Jules (Oskar Werner; and Jim (Henri Serre) are writers and best friends, and their memore a trois with Moreau moves through the artistle ferment of post-First World War Europe. Funty, evocotive and dazzlingly directed. Set the video.

Magemaths (S) (T)

12.30 Working Lunch (36270). 1.00 Johnson and Friends (R) (S) (68004164). 1.10 The History Hour (S) (6050863). 2.10 Awash with Colour (S) (58528184). 2.40 News: Regional News: Weather (T) (3372454). 2.45 Metch of Their Day (S) (T) (4759526). 3.25 News: Regional News: Weather (T) (4862960). 3.30 The Village (R) (S) (9548812). 3.55 Kaya (S) (9557631, 4.29 Ready, Steedy, Cook (S) (T) (6243676). 4.55 Eather (S) (T) (5228657). 5.30 Today's the Day (S) (T) (676).

9.00 The Simpsons. Sideshow Bob is released from the Springfield Perliantiary (R) (S) (T) (275034).

6.25 Robot Wars the Grudge Nistohes. BBC2 seems to be spirning out this series - end no wonder. With more than three and a half milion viewers, it's arrong the channels top 10 most-watched programmes (S) (T) (250725).

9.95 Top of the Pope. Gell Porter presents chart-toppers 60yzone, with their Comic Reliaf single, Char, Vengaboye, Skunk Anansia, Whitney Houston, E-17, Stersophonice and Blur (S) (T) (342454).

7.30 Country House. Toll docu-soap. The Tavistocka' plan for a new golf course in woodlands on the setats causes new tension with the villagers (S) (T) (725).

9.00 Di(I) Truet Me, I'm a Dootor. It must be bad enough having a leg ulcar - but oan you imagine treating it with maggots? Sea Medical Show of the Day, below (S) (T) (6386).

9.39 Gardensrs' World. Stephan Lacey meets garden deelgner to the stare, Jay Griffiths, in Los Angeles (S) (T) (5893).

9.30 Timewatch: The Roman Way of Wer. Another chancs to eas this film taking the cervings on Trajen's Column in Rome as a enepshot of Romen military techniques at the time of the wars between the Emperor Trajen end the people of Dacia (R) (848216). 9.00 Comio Relief: Alen Partridge Livel Stava Coogan continues the fun over on BBC2 (S) (f) (3657) B.30 You've home vic large aux

9.00 Who W presents eo? Will charity? his even averyon

10.00 iniideii ascapee betrayal iniiictad) eriecte t who still elity. More from this confessional earlias in which bees from Variesse and Trisha expand on the marital yel and sexual treachery they have experienced (or ad). The last programme looke at how infidelity at the future of the relationships involved. Meet Bbl, at future of the relationships involved. Meet Bbl, at future of the partner's infidelity 16 years will facia hurt by her partner's infidelity 16 years will facia hurt by her partner's infidelity 16 years been been and Joe, whose if was have been busy, and Fachal and Joe, whose if was have been busy, and cheating in the past (S) (4034).

11.30 Night I 11.00 ITV N 11.20 London Tonight (T) (751251). Weether (T) (882580).

Lite. This new series about London staris with an w with Duweyne Brooks, who was with Stephen co on the night that he was killed (54/54).

12.35 Gilbert-E by the d The Lookelike (Gary Nelson 1990 US). Melisse vinkmen stars es a mother who le baing hounded subte of her deed daughter (S) (T) (387077).

Vision (S) (2036752). To 3am.

5.00 GMTV (5822589)

(S) (T) (4522). 3.20 Childre

5.00 Home and Away (S) (T) (4928).

9.00 London Tonight. Regional news update for the capital and the South-East (T) (285).

7.90 Bruce Forsyth's Pley Your Cards Right,
Brucie Bonuses, brand-new cars and cash prizes –
ell on tha turn of a card (S) (T) (4164).

ation Street. Nick and Leanne face up to a ure with mixed emotions; and Natalle decides then had enough of Lorrains (S) (T) (251).

9.00 Carol V Rooms o Visita ne

10.00 Fresiar. "Merry Christmas Mrs Moskowitz". A woman sets up a blind dala between Fresier and har daughter because she's convinced has Jewish (S) (T) (97893).

Access All Arees: Freek Out (T) (522676), 11.40 Celebrity Death Match (S) (808980), 12.30 4 Leiar: The RuPaul Show (T) (53313), 1.05 4 Leier: Late Toon – Planet Apathy (1271619), 1.10 4 Leier: The Mod Squad (3120503), 2.10 Vide (2161508).

2.40 US). Sex Rohmer's yellow parll returns to the ecrean in the guise of Christopher Lea in this atmospheric fantasy. Nigel Graen co-stars se Nayland Smith of Scotland Yard (285752). To 4.20am.

V Carlton

Powerhouse (T) (8218). 12.00 Seesma Street (T) (86164). 12.30 Bewitchad (R) (T) (36638). 1.00 Pet Rescus (S) (T) (28812). 1.30 Australia Wild (R) (37908).

(987029g

5.30 Draam Ticket. Reports on Madrid, the Orient Express, and the Island of Gozo, off the coest of Malta (102).

7.30 Corons new futu that she

Vorderman's Better Homes. The Changing duplicate with Carol Vordarman who, this week, eighboura in Newbury, Berkehire (T) (3812).

9 een Framsdi Lisa Ritey and more "viewers" deos (in which case, the programme must have a dence in America) (R) (S) (T) (2947).

Wents to Be e Millionaire? Chris Tarrant ante e special hour-long "Comic Reliaf edition". How Vill contestants be donating their winnings to ty? Or will Tarrant be giving away five par cent of vening's sarnings? Perhape they just mean vening's availing a red nose (S) (T) (1947).

5.30 90yz Unlimited. Sitcom about the birth and rise of a boy bend. Thinge look bad for the band se Nicky turne to God and Gareth to Elton John records (S) (T) (4102).

90 Greham Norton (T) (842812).

7.00 The Big 9reaktast (S) (25725)

Lhannel

9.25 Trisha (S) (T) (6054216). 10.30 This Morning (T) (57612589). 12.20 Your Shout (7395522). 12.30 ITV Lunchtime News; Weather (T) (4636657). 12.55 London Today (T) (4644676). 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (4208270). 2.10 Home and Away (S) (T) (56555216). 2.40 Wheel of Fortune (S) (T) (7613706).

9.00 Channel 4 Schools: Off Limite (8920819), 9.25 Schools at Work (8972828), 9.30 Eurekal (8618183), 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (8814638), 10.00 The Complete Cosmoe (5135454), 10.10 TVM (9012928), 10.25 1798 and After (9024783), 10.45 Enter the Mathe Zone (9354367), 11.00 The Technology Programma (3228088), 11.15 Staga One (3241947).

3.10 ITV News Headlines (T) (5182270).

en's ITV: Mopetop's Shop (4811015). 3.30 Noo (5165676). 3.35 Animal Stories (R) (S) 99). 3.45 Giggly Bitzl (T) (9883763). 4.00 Pump (6342847). 4.35 Comin' Atcha (S) (T) (3108783)

2.05 ITM Edge of Eternity (Donald Slagal 1959 US). Slagel rarely made a film that has no points of interest, and this low-budget western has a kean aye for I ha landscapa of the Grand Carryon. There's also an unusual ehoot-out finale as a deputy eheriff purauae a kidnapping kiter (6556386).

9.00 3.39 Collectors* Lot (T) (473). 4.00 Fiftaan to Dne (R) (S) (T) (980). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (3105034). 4.95 Ricki Laka (S) (T) (5213725). 5.30 Pet Recous (S) (T) (744).

TFI Friday. I had no idea that Andy Williams was still with us, but apparently ha is, and he's one of Chris Evens's guests. He also gets to croon a number, along with tonight's other five acts, Echo and the Bunnyman and Travis (S) (46657).

Channel 4 News; Weather. Including 730pm (5) (T) (354299).

7.00

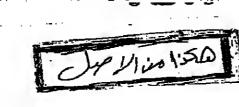
7.89 The Outlew. The last of the enimated earliee beased on the cartoon etrip by Michael Heeth (T) (236183).

Return to the Lost Gerdens of Heilgen. Annabal Turner returns to sea how the sundial parden she transformed in the first series is faring (T) (1454).

Strockelde. Oh, here we go. Ryan shows his darker side (S) (T) (7779).

9.00 Frienda. The first of a two-part story in which Joey takes a liking to Phoeba's twin sister, Ursuls (R) (S) (T) (8725).

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Channel

THE FRIDAY REVIEW
The Independent 12 March 1999

(S) (T) (8096947). 7.30 Milkehakal (S) (2511473). 7.35 Wimzlas House (R) (4590102). 8.00 Havakazoo (R) (S) (2713725). 9.30 Dappiedown Farm (R) (2712096). 9.30 Nancy Lam (R) (S) (T) (5517003). 9.25 Russell Grant's Postcerds (4372744). 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6887283). 10.20 Sunset Beach (S) (T) (3589386). 1130 Lesza (S) (7016675). 12.00 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (2716612). 12.30 Family Affaira (S) (T) (194034). 1.00 The Bold and the Basutiful (S) (T) (6095218). 1.30 The Rosaanne Show (S) (183305). 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (9072034). 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (1570522).

5.20 Sunest Beach. Gregory takes Amila upatairs to Trey's nursary, where he reveals that ha la the blackmeller. Gat e fan to explain, it you can shake them out thair trance (S) (T) (3643612). 100 Per Cent. The game show without e host (S) (2316015).

8.00

Family Affeirs. Pele gete (1) (2307367). comeuppanca (S)

7.00 & News (S) (T) (9043522).

7.30 Natural Paesione. Documentery tooking at the work vet David Cooper, who is in charge of transferring rhinos, and ilons between African game parks (S) (T) (2398251).

8.00 Cope In the Sky. Police, Cemera. Action-style Import that looks at the work of the American serial police. What is the chance that we get the OJ Simpson helicopter-chase footage all over again? (S) (840754).

9.00 ETIMI Murder in New Hempshire (Joyce Chopra 1991 US). You might ramember the case of the New England achoolteacher, Pamele Smart, who eaduced a 18-year-old pupil end set ebout turning him into har husband's killer. Helen Hunt is not en obvious choice for the role, but she knucklae down to it. Above-par drama for this headlina-chasing sort of thing (S) (T) (81171589).

19.50 Poltergelet: the Legecy (R) (S) (T) (49:0541).

11.48 All Deita of Venus (Zaiman King 1995 US). Fana of literery 1830a erolicist Anais Nin ehould probably give this glossy pieca of soil porn e wide berth. Nin's critice will probably think it a rether litting monument (6020086).

3.20 1.40 IIIM Near Nrs (Baz Taylor 1991 Fr/US). Comady starring Judga Reinhold as a bigamist (5) (4216771). Two paople survive an air craeh (52016787). To 4.35am.

THENSION GUIDE BY GEIMRD GILLIERT

